



# BIRTHS

AUSTRALIA

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070, or Katrina Phelan on Canberra 02 6252 6573.

## NOTES

**ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION** This publication brings together statistics and indicators for births in Australia.

**DATA IN THIS PUBLICATION** This publication contains birth registration data for live births, except where otherwise stated. Population data used in the calculation of the rates for 2001 are the preliminary 2001 Census-based estimated resident population at 30 June 2001. When 2000 and 2001 data are compared, the number of births registered and the total fertility rate for Tasmania appear high in 2001. This was due to a delay in birth registrations in December 2000 brought about by system, processing and legislative changes affecting the Tasmania birth registration form.

**ROUNDING** In commentary based on the statistics in this publication, it is recommended that the relevant statistics be rounded. All data are affected by errors in reporting and processing. Birth registration data are also affected by delays in registration. These data have had small values randomised to protect confidentiality. No reliance should be placed on statistics with small values.



**SYMBOLS AND OTHER  
USAGES**

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
CD	Collection District
ERP	estimated resident population
ISBR	indirect standardised birth rate
n.a.	not available
n.f.d.	not further defined
n.p.	not published
NCHS	National Centre for Health Statistics
NHS	National Health Survey
NPSU	National Perinatal Statistics Unit
p	preliminary
r	revised
RA	Remoteness Areas
SACC	Standard Australian Classification of Countries
SD	Statistical Division
SE	standard error
SEIFA	Socio-Economic Indexes For Areas
SFA	Survey of Families in Australia
SFR	standardised fertility ratio
SLA	Statistical Local Area
TFR	total fertility rate
..	not applicable
—	nil or rounded to zero (including null cells) see Explanatory Notes, paragraph 3.

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Australian Statistician

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## MEDIAN AGE OF MOTHERS OF NEWBORN CHILDREN REACHES 30 YEARS

- The median age of mothers of newborn children (that is where half of the mothers were younger and half were older) reached 30 years for the first time in 2001. The median age of mothers is affected by trends towards delayed partnering and childbearing and following divorce, repartnering and subsequent family formation.
- The median age of married mothers of newborn children reached 30 years in 1995, increasing to 31 years in 2001.
- The median age of unmarried mothers of newborn children remained below 30 years, at 26.2 years in 2001.
- The oldest mothers giving birth in 2001 were in Victoria (median age of 30.7 years) followed by the Australian Capital Territory (30.4 years) and South Australia (30.3 years).
- The youngest mothers giving birth in 2001 were in the Northern Territory (median age of 27.9 years) followed by Tasmania (29.1 years).
- The median age of fathers of babies registered in 2001 was 32.3 years. The median age of fathers reached 30 years in 1983.

## BIRTHS DECLINE

- The number of births registered in 2001 declined by 3,200 (or -1%) compared to the number registered in 2000, from 249,600 to 246,400.
- Western Australia experienced the largest decline (-4%) in the number of births registered in 2001 compared to 2000, followed by South Australia and New South Wales (each -3%).
- Tasmania experienced the largest increase (13%) in the number of births registered in 2001 compared to 2000, followed by the Northern Territory (4%) and Queensland (1%).

## FERTILITY DECLINES

- In 2001, Australia's total fertility rate was 1.73 babies per woman, 1% lower than in 2000 (1.75).
- Australia's fertility rate remains lower than that of New Zealand (2.0) and the United States of America (1.9) and higher than Canada (1.6), Japan (1.3) and many European countries such as Italy and Greece (each 1.2).
- Women aged 30-34 years continued to experience the highest fertility rate in 2001 (107 babies per 1,000 women), however this rate declined by 3% compared to 2000 (111 babies).
- Women aged 25-29 years experienced the second highest fertility rate in 2001 of 104 babies per 1,000 women, a decline of 3% compared to 2000 (107 babies).
- Teenage fertility marginally increased between 2000 and 2001, from 17 babies per 1,000 women in 2000 to 18 in 2001.

## REGIONAL FERTILITY

- Women in the Northern Territory experienced the highest total fertility rate in 2001 at 2.26 babies per woman while women in the Australian Capital Territory experienced the lowest at 1.51 babies per woman.
- Women living in Australia's major cities (69% of women aged 15–49 years) have the lowest total fertility rate (1.65 babies per woman) while women living in Remote areas (2.27 babies) and Very remote areas (2.28 babies) have the highest fertility rates. For further information see the Special Article, Regional Fertility Differentials on page 32.
- Of all the capital cities, Melbourne has the lowest fertility (1.54 babies per woman averaged over the three years, 1999, 2000 and 2001), followed by Adelaide and Canberra (each 1.61 babies per woman).

## INDIGENOUS BIRTHS

- There were 11,400 births registered in Australia during 2001 (5% of all births registered) where at least one parent identified as Indigenous.
- Notwithstanding the coverage of Indigenous births, Indigenous women have a higher total fertility rate (2.14 babies per woman) than all women (1.73 babies).
- High fertility at younger ages contributes to the relatively high fertility of Indigenous women. In 2001, women under 30 years of age accounted for three-quarters of the Indigenous total fertility rate.
- The median age of Indigenous women who registered a birth during 2001 was 24.8 years, more than five years younger than the median age of all women (30.0 years).
- Indigenous women in the Northern Territory had the highest fertility rate of any state or territory, at 2.98 babies per woman. In comparison, the fertility rate for all women in the Northern Territory was 2.26.
- The median age of Indigenous women giving birth was the lowest in the Northern Territory (24.1 years) followed by Western Australia (24.3 years).

## FERTILITY BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH

- Women born in Australia who registered a birth in the three years 1999 to 2001 experienced a total fertility rate of 1.74 babies per women. Of the women who were born overseas who registered a birth in Australia during those years, there was wide variation in total fertility rates according to country of birth. For example, women born in Lebanon had a total fertility rate of 3.46 babies while women born in Hong Kong had a rate of 0.94 babies. For further information see the Special Article, Fertility by Country of Birth on page 24.

## CHILDLESSNESS

- The proportion of women remaining childless has increased over time in each age group. For women aged 25–29 years in 1981, 35% were childless, while 59% of women of the same age in 2001 were childless.
- In 1981, 8% of 40–44-year-old women were childless. By 2001 this had increased to 13% of women.

INTRODUCTION

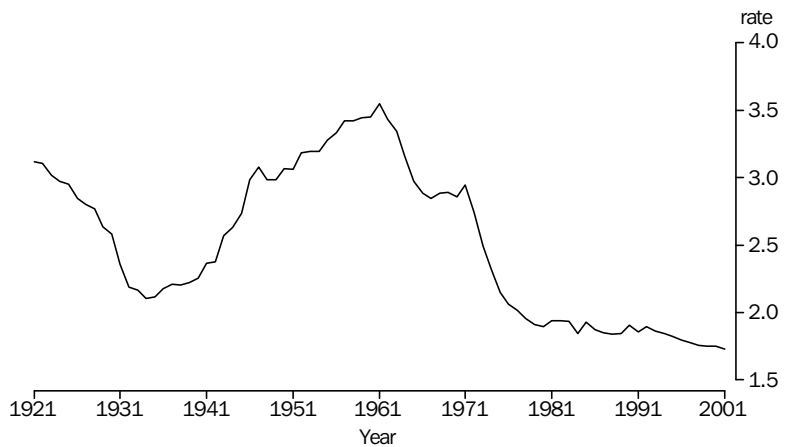
During 2001, 246,400 births were registered in Australia from 242,300 mothers (confinements), 4,000 confinements resulted in 8,100 multiple births. Of all births, 75,700 (31%) were exnuptial, including 9,200 (4%) exnuptial births where the paternity of the child was not acknowledged. The number of births registered during 2001 was 3,200 less (-1.3%) than the number registered during 2000 (249,600).

TRENDS IN FERTILITY

The total fertility rate (TFR) represents the average number of babies that a woman could expect to bear during her reproductive lifetime. The TFR was 1.73 babies per woman for 2001, down from 1.75 for 2000, and much lower than the rates recorded for 1991 (1.86) and 1981 (1.94).

Having reached 3.1 during the early 1920s, Australian fertility was relatively low during the Great Depression of the 1930s, reaching 2.1 babies per woman in 1934. In 1961, at the height of the 'baby boom', it peaked at 3.5 babies per woman. Since then, fertility has declined, falling sharply during the early 1960s as the oral contraceptive pill became available, before hovering at 2.9 babies per woman in the years 1966–1971. The reinterpretation of abortion law in New South Wales in late 1971, in a ruling by Justice Levine in the case of *R v Wall et al.*, had a substantial impact on women's ability to control their fertility. Subsequently a fall in births to young women contributed to a further decrease in the TFR and an increase in the median age of mothers (Carmichael, 1998). The TFR reached replacement level (2.1) in 1976. Fertility subsequently continued to fall as increasing numbers of women chose to delay or forego having children. The TFR then stabilised somewhat during the 1980s, before resuming a more gradual decline during the 1990s. At 1.73 babies per woman, the fertility rate for 2001 is the lowest on record.

**2.1 TOTAL FERTILITY RATE**



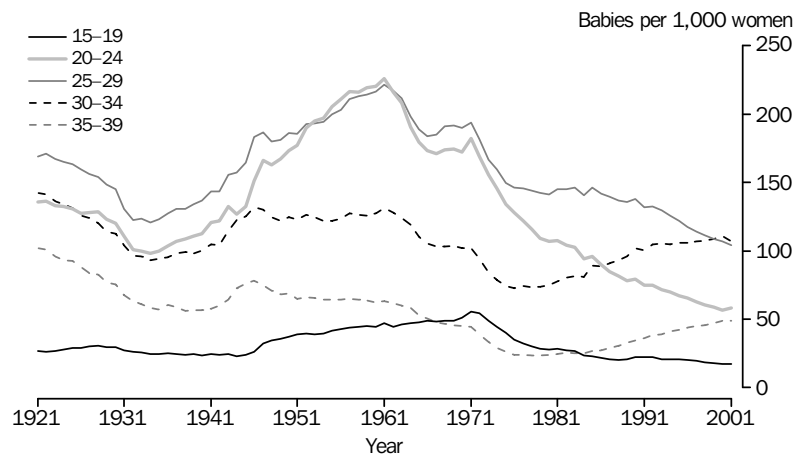


## Age-specific fertility

Women aged 30–34 years experienced the highest fertility for the third year running in 2001, at a rate of 107.0 babies per 1,000 women. Women aged 25–29 years had the second highest fertility rate at 104.3 babies per 1,000 women, followed by women aged 20–24 years (58.0) and women aged 35–39 years (48.7).

With some fluctuations, there has been a fairly stable distribution of fertility across age groups since 1921, with each age group peaking and troughing together, although the peaks have been more pronounced in some age groups than in others. Women aged 25–29 years had the highest fertility for most of this period, followed by women aged 20–24 years. However, women aged 30–34 years have experienced increasing fertility since the mid-1970s and now have the highest fertility, having overtaken 20–24-year-olds in 1987 and 25–29-year-olds in 1999. Women aged 35–39 years now have the fourth highest fertility rate, as they did prior to 1967, having overtaken 15–19-year-olds in 1984.

The main decline in the fertility rate over the period 1981 to 2001 occurred among younger women. The fertility of women aged 20–24 years and 25–29 years declined by –46% and –28% respectively, while fertility rose for women aged 30–34 years (38%) and 35–39 years (99%). The fertility of women aged 40 years and over also increased over this period, as the trend towards older motherhood continued.

**2.2 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES, Selected ages**

### Replacement fertility

Since 1976, Australia has had below replacement level fertility. That is, the average number of babies born to a woman throughout her reproductive life (the TFR) has been insufficient to replace herself and her partner. Although the TFR required for replacement is currently around 2.1 babies per woman, this number is not constant. Because the level of fertility required for replacement is dependent on the number of women who survive to reproductive ages, replacement fertility has declined in parallel with falls in female mortality. In 1921, when mortality rates were high, replacement fertility was 2.4 babies per woman. By 1954, it had fallen to 2.1, and in 1996 replacement fertility was 2.08. Even if female mortality declined to zero, the replacement level would still be 2.05 (1.05 male and 1.0 female babies) — considerably higher than the 2001 TFR of 1.73 babies per woman.

## STATE AND TERRITORY

### Fertility

The TFR in 2001 varied substantially across the states and territories, from 1.51 births per women in the Australian Capital Territory to 2.26 in the Northern Territory. In 2001, New South Wales, Queensland, Tasmania and the Northern Territory all experienced fertility rates higher than the national level (1.73) while Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory were all below the national level. Over the past 20 years the TFR for each state and territory has declined.

The low fertility rates for 2001 in the Australian Capital Territory (1.51) and Victoria (1.61) are related to low first birth fertility (see *Births, Australia, 2000*, cat. no. 3301.0, p. 39) and higher median ages of mothers at the birth of their children (above 30 years) in each of these states and territories.

### Fertility and age

The states and territories recorded varying levels of fertility in each age group, particularly at younger ages.

In 2001, most states and territories recorded low levels of fertility among women aged 15–19 years and 20–24 years, with Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory recording the lowest rates. In contrast, the Northern Territory recorded the highest levels of fertility at these age groups. The teenage fertility rate for women (aged 15–19 years) in the Northern Territory was, at 70 babies per 1,000 women, over six times higher than the teenage fertility rate in Victoria (11 babies per 1,000 women). Tasmania's teenage fertility rate (33 babies per 1,000 women) was also relatively high.

### Median age of parents at confinement

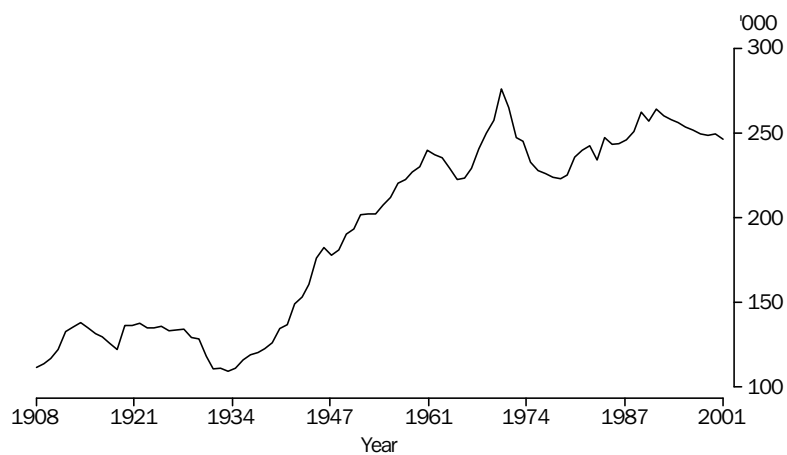
Across the states and territories, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory had the oldest mothers giving birth, followed by mothers in South Australia. The median age of mothers in each of these states and territories (30.7, 30.4 and 30.3 years respectively) was above the national median age of 30.0 years. The Northern Territory and Tasmania had the youngest mothers, with median ages of 27.9 years and 29.1 years respectively.

The Northern Territory and Tasmania also had the youngest fathers in 2001, with median ages of 31.2 years and 31.4 years respectively. Victoria had the oldest fathers, though their median age (32.8 years) was only marginally older than that of fathers in other states and territories.

## BIRTHS

For most of the first half of this century, the number of births registered in Australia each year remained under 140,000, troughing in the early 1930s during the Great Depression. The number of registered births in Australia then grew to reach a peak in 1971 (276,400), fluctuating for the next two decades before reaching another peak in 1992 (264,200). The number of births registered each year had been declining since 1992 until 2000 when there was an increase of 770 births on the previous year, due to the increasing number of women moving into the childbearing age groups. However in 2001 the number of registered births declined again by 3,200 to 246,400.

### 2.3 REGISTERED BIRTHS



The three most populous states accounted for over three-quarters of births registered in 2001 — 84,600 in New South Wales (34% of all births), 58,600 in Victoria (24% of all births) and 47,700 in Queensland (19% of all births). These proportions reflect the proportions of the Australian female population in the reproductive ages living in these states.

Just over half (51%) of all births registered in 2001 were male babies. The overall sex ratio at birth being 105 male babies for every 100 female. Every state and territory recorded more male than female babies born during the year.

## NUPTIAL AND EXNUPTIAL BIRTHS

In 2001, 69% of the mothers who registered a birth were married. (Marriage in this publication refers to a registered marriage unless otherwise indicated). Many of the remaining 31% of mothers may have been in de facto marriages. The proportion of exnuptial births (31% in 2001) has been increasing since the 1950s, and has risen sharply over the last two decades.

## Paternity-acknowledgment

With exnuptial births comes the possibility that the father may not acknowledge the birth (that is, the father has not signed the birth certificate). However, the increase in exnuptial births has been associated with an increase in paternity-acknowledged births. Paternity-not-acknowledged births have decreased from 5% of all births in 1981 to 4% in 2001.

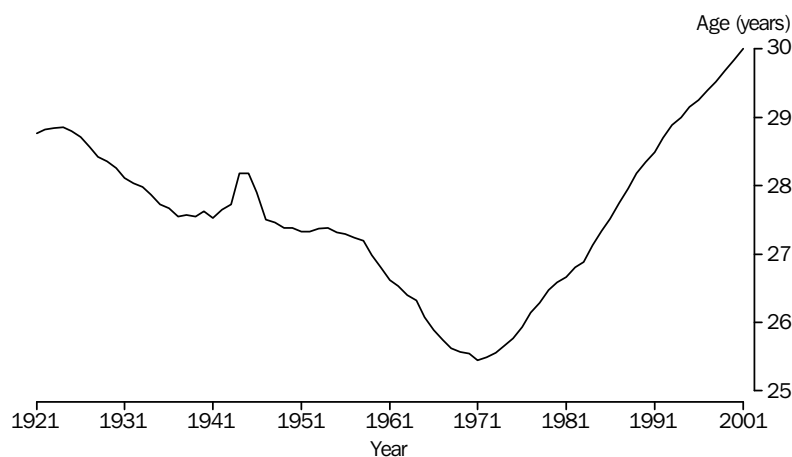
## Age of parents at confinement

In 2001, the median age of mothers was 30.0 years and the median age of fathers was 32.3 years. Women who registered an exnuptial birth in 2001 were approximately five years younger (26.2 years) than women who registered a nuptial birth (31.0 years). Meanwhile, the median age of mothers registering the first child of their current marriage was 29.8 years. In 2001, the median age of those women who gave birth outside of a registered marriage where paternity was not acknowledged (24.4 years), was younger than those where paternity was acknowledged (26.5 years).

## Median age of parents this century

Prior to the 1930s the median age of mothers giving birth had been in decline before stabilising during the 1930s and then rising during the Second World War. After the War the median age of mothers fell substantially, reaching its lowest in 1971 (25.4 years). The reinterpretation of abortion law in New South Wales in 1971 was associated with a substantial fall in births to young women and an increase in the median age of mothers from 1972. Since then the median age of mothers has been increasing each year, reaching 30.0 years, the highest so far, in 2001.

As age-specific fertility rates indicate, the median age of mothers is affected by trends towards delayed partnering and childbearing and following divorce, repartnering and subsequent family formation.

**2.4 MEDIAN AGE OF MOTHERS**

### Median age of parents this century *continued*

The median age of all fathers in 2001 was 32.3 years, continuing the upward trend of the past two decades. Between 1981 and 2001, the median age of married fathers increased by 3.4 years from 29.8 years to 33.2 years. The median age of unmarried fathers who acknowledged the birth of their child also increased, from 26.0 years in 1981 to 29.0 years in 2001.

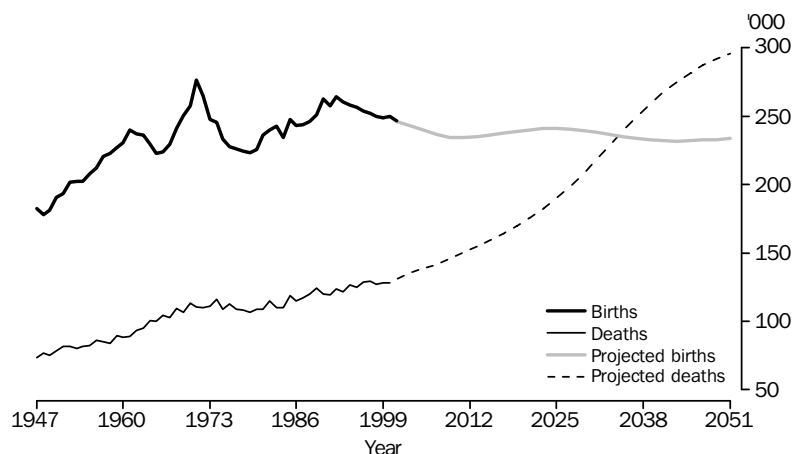
### CONFINEMENTS RESULTING IN A MULTIPLE BIRTH

During 2001, the number of confinements resulting in a multiple birth continued its upward trend in Australia (4,000). There were 74% more confinements resulting in a multiple birth than in 1981, 20% more than in 1991 and 3% more than in 2000.

### BIRTHS AS A COMPONENT OF POPULATION GROWTH

Births form an important component of population growth. Each year, about a quarter of a million births occur in Australia. This is roughly twice the number of deaths, resulting in the natural increase of around 120,000 to 140,000 persons each year. Since 1976, Australian fertility has been below replacement level, i.e. the number of births required to replace a woman and her partner (currently 2.1). On current fertility rates, each woman can expect to have 1.73 babies over her lifetime. Despite this, natural increase is still positive because of the relatively young age structure of the population. While the number of births per woman is low, there are enough women at child-bearing ages to keep the total number of births relatively high. Conversely, there are relatively few people at the older ages, resulting in a relatively low number of deaths per year. As the population ages, the gap between the number of births and deaths will decrease, and, assuming a TFR of 1.6 and a net overseas migration figure of 90,000 persons annually, natural increase is projected to fall below zero around the 2030s.

### 2.5 ACTUAL AND PROJECTED(a) BIRTHS AND DEATHS



(a) Projections source: *Population Projections, Australia* (cat. no. 3222.0) (series II; low fertility and medium net overseas migration).

While net overseas migration makes a substantial contribution to population growth, natural increase has been the larger contributor in every year since 1950, with the exceptions of 1987, 1988 and 1989.

## 2.6 COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

Period(b)	Live	Deaths(a)	Natural	Net	Population at	Population increase	
	births(a)			increase		overseas	end of period
	'000	'000	'000	migration	'000		
				'000			
1981	235.8	109.0	126.8	123.1	15 054.1	246.7	1.7
1982	239.9	114.8	125.1	102.7	15 288.9	234.8	1.6
1983	242.6	110.1	132.5	55.0	15 483.5	194.6	1.3
1984	238.5	111.9	126.6	59.8	15 677.3	193.8	1.3
1985	242.9	116.8	126.1	89.3	15 900.6	223.3	1.4
1986	243.4	115.0	128.4	110.7	16 138.8	238.2	1.5
1987	244.0	117.3	126.6	136.1	16 394.6	255.9	1.6
1988	246.2	119.9	126.3	172.8	16 687.1	292.4	1.8
1989	250.9	124.2	126.6	129.5	16 936.7	249.6	1.5
1990	262.6	120.1	142.6	97.1	17 169.8	233.0	1.4
1991	259.1	119.7	139.4	81.7	17 387.0	217.3	1.3
1992	262.1	122.9	139.2	51.4	17 581.3	194.3	1.1
1993	258.6	120.8	137.8	34.8	17 760.0	178.7	1.0
1994	258.4	127.0	131.4	55.5	17 951.5	191.5	1.1
1995	254.9	125.1	129.8	106.9	18 196.1	244.6	1.4
1996	252.9	128.2	124.7	97.4	18 430.5	234.4	1.3
1997	251.1	128.8	122.3	72.4	18 639.8	209.3	1.1
1998	248.3	127.4	120.8	103.1	18 880.4	240.6	1.3
1999	250.2	128.2	122.0	88.4	19 110.2	229.8	1.2
2000r	250.2	130.0	120.1	104.5	19 360.6	250.4	1.3
2001p	245.8	128.6	117.2	110.5	19 603.5	242.9	1.3

(a) Births and deaths are as recorded for population estimation purposes.

(b) Calendar years.

(c) Total growth will not necessarily equate to the difference between the population in consecutive periods. This difference is known as intercensal discrepancy. See Glossary for more information.

## INTERNATIONAL FERTILITY

According to the United Nations, the projected world average TFR for 2000–2005 stands at 2.7 babies per woman, declining from the relatively constant five births per woman that existed until the late 1960s and early 1970s. However, TFRs for individual countries vary remarkably. There are many factors that can influence a country's fertility rate, such as differences in social and economic development and contraceptive prevalence. In general, developing countries have higher fertility rates while developed countries usually have lower fertility rates.

Australia's TFR for 2001, of 1.73 babies per woman, is one of the lowest in the world and well below the world's average, although compared to other developed countries, Australia's TFR is among the middle ranked nations. According to the United Nations projected average TFR for 2000–2005, the lowest fertility in developed countries are for European countries such as Spain with an estimated fertility rate of 1.1, Italy (1.2), Hong Kong (1.2) and Germany (1.3). The Middle Eastern and African countries have the highest fertility rates with Niger (8.0), Yemen (7.6) and Somalia (7.3) some of the highest.

## 2.7 INTERNATIONAL TOTAL FERTILITY RATES, Selected years

	1950–55	1955–60	1960–65	1965–70	1970–75	1975–80	1980–85	1985–90	1990–95	1995–2000	2000–2005(a)
Australia	3.2	3.4	3.3	2.9	2.5	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8
Canada	3.7	3.9	3.6	2.5	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6
China	6.2	5.6	5.7	6.1	4.9	3.3	2.6	2.5	1.9	1.8	1.8
France	2.7	2.7	2.9	2.6	2.3	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8
Germany	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.3	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3
Greece	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.0	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2
Hong Kong	4.4	4.7	5.3	4.0	2.9	2.3	1.8	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2
India	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.4	4.8	4.5	4.1	3.7	3.3	3.0
Indonesia	5.5	5.7	5.4	5.6	5.2	4.7	4.1	3.5	3.0	2.6	2.3
Italy	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.3	1.9	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2
Japan	2.8	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3
Korea, Republic of	5.4	6.3	5.6	4.7	4.3	2.9	2.2	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.5
Malaysia	6.8	6.9	6.7	5.9	5.2	4.2	4.2	4.0	3.6	3.3	2.9
New Zealand	3.7	4.1	4.0	3.4	2.8	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0
Niger	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.0	8.0
Papua New Guinea	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.4	5.2	5.1	4.6	4.3
Singapore	6.4	6.0	4.9	3.5	2.6	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.5
Somalia	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3
Spain	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.6	1.9	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.1
Sweden	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.0	1.5	1.3
United Kingdom	2.2	2.5	2.8	2.5	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6
United States of America	3.5	3.7	3.3	2.6	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.0	1.9
Viet Nam	5.8	6.6	7.3	7.3	6.7	5.9	4.5	4.0	3.3	2.5	2.3
Yemen	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6
<b>World</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.7</b>

(a) The projected 2000–2005 total fertility rate uses the medium variant.

Source: Population Division, United Nations Secretariat, United Nations, *World Population Prospects, 2000 Revisions*.

### INDIGENOUS FERTILITY

In 2001, on current rates, it is estimated that Indigenous women will have at least 2.14 babies each, compared to 1.73 babies for all women. The TFR for Indigenous women is derived using the number of births registered to Indigenous mothers in 2001, and the preliminary 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 Census. It was estimated that the coverage of Indigenous births had increased from 92% in 2000 to 95% in 2001. Indigenous women in the Northern Territory had the highest fertility rate of any state or territory, at 2.98 babies per woman in 2001. For all women in the Northern Territory the TFR was 2.26. For further information see Chapter 10, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander births on page 68.

## 2.8 SUMMARY

	1981	1991	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
FERTILITY							
Age-specific fertility rate(a)							
15–19(b)	28.2	22.1	19.5	18.5	18.1	17.4	17.6
20–24	107.5	75.0	62.4	60.2	58.7	56.5	58.0
25–29	145.2	132.0	113.9	111.4	108.5	107.0	104.3
30–34	77.6	100.2	106.7	107.4	108.8	110.5	107.0
35–39	24.5	36.0	45.0	45.7	47.1	49.1	48.7
40–44	4.5	5.5	7.5	8.0	8.5	8.8	9.1
45–49(c)	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
Total fertility rate(d)	1.939	1.855	1.776	1.758	1.751	1.749	1.726
Net reproduction rate(d)	0.924	0.887	0.854	0.842	0.842	0.838	0.830
BIRTHS							
Total births	235 842	257 247	251 842	249 616	248 870	249 636	246 394
Males	121 170	131 965	129 179	128 016	127 357	128 190	126 298
Females	114 672	125 282	122 663	121 600	121 513	121 446	120 096
Sex ratio	105.7	105.3	105.3	105.3	104.8	105.6	105.2
Nuptial births (%)	86.8	77.0	71.9	71.3	70.8	70.8	69.3
Exnuptial births (%)	13.2	23.0	28.1	28.7	29.2	29.2	30.7
Paternity-not-acknowledged (%)	5.2	4.7	4.1	3.7	3.4	3.5	3.7
Crude birth rate	15.8	14.9	13.6	13.3	13.1	13.0	12.6
CONFINEMENTS							
Total confinements	233 535	253 861	248 246	245 898	245 108	245 697	242 340
Nuptial	202 579	195 258	178 279	175 162	173 263	173 571	167 572
First nuptial	82 476	81 179	73 356	72 276	72 828	74 648	70 861
Exnuptial	30 956	58 603	69 967	70 736	71 845	72 126	74 768
Paternity-acknowledged	18 711	46 560	59 793	61 616	63 402	63 634	65 710
Median age of mother (years)							
All confinements	26.7	28.5	29.4	29.5	29.7	29.8	30.0
Nuptial	27.1	29.3	30.4	30.5	30.6	30.8	31.0
First nuptial	25.3	27.8	29.0	29.1	29.3	29.5	29.8
Exnuptial	22.1	24.1	25.4	25.7	25.9	26.2	26.2
Paternity-acknowledged	22.9	24.5	25.6	25.9	26.1	26.4	26.5
Median age of father (years)							
All fathers, where age is known	29.6	31.0	32.0	32.0	32.1	32.2	32.3
Nuptial	29.8	31.6	32.8	32.9	33.0	33.1	33.2
Paternity-acknowledged	26.0	27.3	28.1	28.4	28.5	28.9	29.0
Median duration of marriage (years)							
Nuptial	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.5
First nuptial	2.3	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5
Previous confinements of the current relationship							
0	113 355	113 702	114 296	114 550	116 649	119 069	116 022
1	67 669	69 688	77 540	76 952	76 137	75 266	75 546
2	35 467	33 015	31 945	31 271	30 661	29 554	28 920
3	11 759	10 516	9 783	9 538	8 949	9 056	8 545
4	3 284	2 869	2 749	2 734	2 595	2 564	2 521
5 and over	1 994	1 718	1 759	1 733	1 674	1 696	1 728
Average number of confinements of the current relationship	1.85	1.82	1.81	1.80	1.78	1.77	1.77

(a) Per 1,000 women.

(c) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over

(b) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years..

(d) Per woman.



## 2.9 STATE AND TERRITORY SUMMARY

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
<b>FERTILITY</b>									
Age-specific fertility rate(a)									
15–19(b)	17.0	11.4	22.5	14.4	19.4	32.7	70.0	9.8	17.6
20–24	59.7	44.2	68.9	55.4	60.5	86.6	99.9	37.0	58.0
25–29	106.3	94.9	111.3	100.9	105.6	129.4	117.6	95.0	104.3
30–34	107.7	109.8	103.8	106.6	104.2	112.3	103.2	100.4	107.0
35–39	50.6	51.4	44.4	46.4	45.6	44.2	48.6	50.9	48.7
40–44	9.8	9.5	7.6	9.8	8.4	8.0	12.1	8.1	9.1
45–49(c)	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.8	0.7	0.4
Total fertility rate(d)	1.757	1.608	1.795	1.670	1.720	2.066	2.260	1.510	1.726
Net reproduction rate(d)	0.842	0.775	0.865	0.817	0.827	0.973	1.053	0.735	0.830
<b>BIRTHS</b>									
Total births	84 578	58 626	47 678	17 281	24 002	6 430	3 822	3 938	246 394
Males	43 529	29 943	24 377	8 730	12 329	3 376	1 997	1 995	126 298
Females	41 049	28 683	23 301	8 551	11 673	3 054	1 825	1 943	120 096
Sex ratio	106.0	104.4	104.6	102.1	105.6	110.5	109.4	102.7	105.2
Indigenous births	3 112	522	3 337	612	1 597	468	1 688	67	11 405
Estimated coverage 1996 Census-based (%)	88	77	97	93	98	99	117	65	95
Nuptial births (%)	72.3	74.4	64.6	66.4	65.4	57.2	36.8	72.9	69.3
Exnuptial births (%)	27.7	25.6	35.4	33.6	34.6	42.8	63.2	27.1	30.7
Paternity-not-acknowledged (%)	3.5	2.1	4.6	3.2	3.7	3.3	23.2	4.8	3.7
Crude birth rate	12.8	12.2	13.1	11.4	12.6	13.6	19.1	12.2	12.6
<b>CONFINEMENTS</b>									
Total confinements	83 125	57 658	46 940	17 026	23 597	6 324	3 773	3 860	242 340
Nuptial	59 970	42 837	30 248	11 287	15 407	3 605	1 380	2 809	167 572
First nuptial	25 703	18 300	12 421	4 793	6 409	1 489	562	1 172	70 861
Exnuptial	23 155	14 821	16 692	5 739	8 190	2 719	2 393	1 051	74 768
Paternity-acknowledged	20 203	13 592	14 519	5 187	7 307	2 510	1 515	870	65 710
Median age of mother (years)									
All confinements	30.0	30.7	29.3	30.3	29.8	29.1	27.9	30.4	30.0
Nuptial	30.8	31.3	30.6	31.4	30.9	30.7	31.3	31.0	31.0
First nuptial	29.6	30.2	29.5	30.3	29.9	29.8	30.2	29.8	29.8
Exnuptial	26.3	27.5	25.4	26.3	25.9	25.0	25.2	27.6	26.2
Paternity-acknowledged	26.5	27.6	25.6	26.5	26.2	25.2	25.9	27.7	26.5
Median age of father (years)									
All fathers, where age is known	32.5	32.8	31.5	32.5	32.1	31.4	31.2	32.4	32.3
Nuptial	33.2	33.4	32.6	33.4	33.2	32.7	33.4	33.0	33.2
First nuptial	30.9	31.4	29.9	31.1	30.6	30.1	29.5	30.8	30.8
Exnuptial paternity-acknowledged	29.1	29.9	28.1	29.4	28.7	28.5	28.4	29.3	29.0
Median duration of marriage (years)									
Nuptial	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.2	4.4	4.5
First nuptial	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.7	2.3	2.4	2.5
Previous confinements of the current relationship									
0	39 653	27 654	22 605	8 347	11 239	3 258	1 494	1 757	116 022
1	26 017	18 697	14 048	5 487	7 341	1 835	846	1 263	75 546
2	10 075	7 166	5 329	1 890	2 913	692	368	481	28 920
3	2 971	1 967	1 831	498	814	219	115	127	8 545
4	873	528	577	147	251	66	46	33	2 521
5 and over	584	417	377	105	156	45	26	18	1 728
Average number of confinements of the current relationship	1.77	1.77	1.77	1.72	1.77	1.72	1.78	1.78	1.77

(a) Per 1,000 women.

(c) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(b) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(d) Per woman.

**ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER BIRTHS** .....

Birth registrations classify a birth as Indigenous (Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander birth) where at least one parent identified as being of Indigenous origin. Indigenous fertility, on the other hand, only refers to births where the mother identified as Indigenous. This chapter analyses the number and characteristics of Indigenous births and fertility in each state and territory where the number of Indigenous births registered is regarded as satisfactory. Data for the Australian Capital Territory is not presented separately because of small numbers and poor coverage.

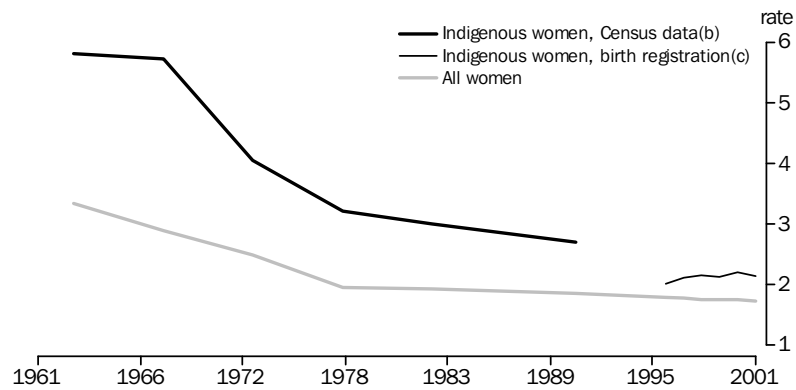
The estimated coverage of Indigenous birth registrations in 2001, based on the 1996 Census population estimates for 2001, was 95% for Australia. The coverage for the states and territories ranged from 65% in the Australian Capital Territory to 117% in the Northern Territory. (See Chapter 10, table 10.9, p. 76).

TRENDS IN INDIGENOUS FERTILITY

In the early 1960s, the fertility of Indigenous women (5.8 babies per woman), was nearly twice the rate of that for all women in Australia (3.5 babies). Since then, fertility levels of both Indigenous and all women have declined substantially, with the largest decreases recorded during the 1970s. While the fertility of all women began a decline in the 1960s which continues today, the fertility levels of Indigenous women remained relatively stable during the 1960s only to be followed by a sharp decline during the 1970s. It is estimated that in the fifteen years to 1996, the fertility of Indigenous women declined to a low of 2.0 babies per woman in 1996, before increasing slightly. In 2001, Indigenous fertility is estimated at 2.14 babies per woman, compared to 1.73 babies for all women.

Due to the poor quality of historical Indigenous birth registration data, the fertility rates of Indigenous women up to 1996 were derived using data collected in the Censuses. Indigenous identification is still an issue with Census data. From 1996 onwards, birth registration data has been used.

3.1 TOTAL FERTILITY RATES(a)



Source: A. Gray, *The Explosion of Aboriginality: Components of Indigenous Population Growth 1991–96*, CAEPR, Discussion Paper no. 142/1997, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Australian National University, Canberra, 1997; *Australian Demographic Trends, 1997* (cat. no. 3102.0); *Births, Australia, 2001* (cat. no. 3301.0).

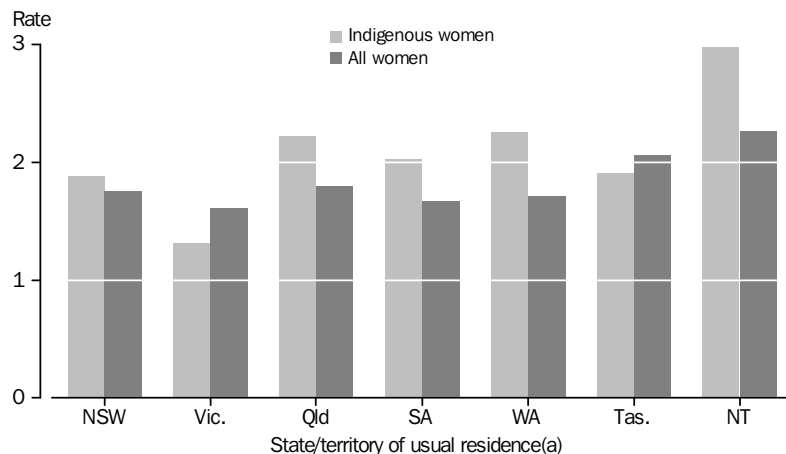
- (a) Births per woman.
- (b) Five-year total fertility rates (from 1961–66 to 1981–86) and ten-year total fertility rate (1986–96), published by A. Gray using Census data, plotted against the mid-point.
- (c) Annual total fertility rates were calculated from birth registrations and 1996 Census-based projected population for each year (low series), except 2001 where the preliminary 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 Census are used.

STATE VARIATIONS IN FERTILITY

The TFR for Indigenous women is derived using the number of births registered to Indigenous mothers in 2001 and the preliminary 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 Census.

The Indigenous TFR varies across the states and territories. The highest fertility in 2001 occurred in the Northern Territory (2.98 babies per woman), followed by Western Australia (2.26), Queensland (2.22) and South Australia (2.02). Victoria (1.31) and Tasmania (1.91) were the only states where the Indigenous TFR was lower than the TFR for all women in the state. However, the TFR in Victoria reflects the poor coverage of Indigenous births in that state (see table 10.9).

3.2 TOTAL FERTILITY RATE, Indigenous women and all women



(a) Data for the Australian Capital Territory are not publishable.

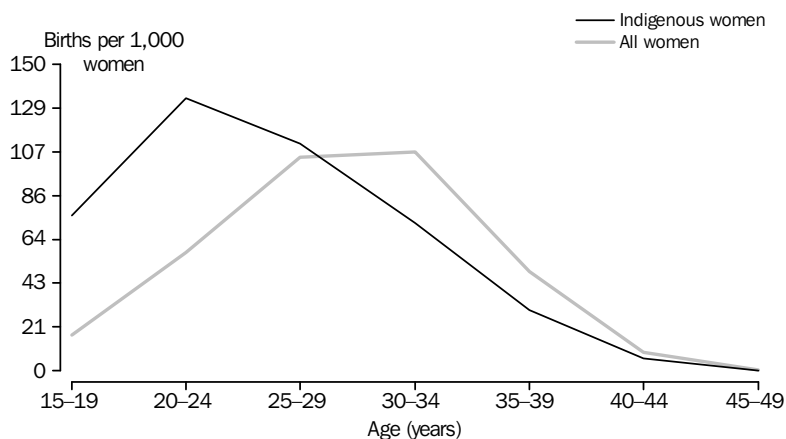
Age-specific fertility

The high fertility at younger ages contributes to the relatively high fertility of Indigenous women. In 2001, three-quarters of the total fertility of Indigenous women was accounted for by women under 30 years of age, compared to just over half of the fertility for all women.

For Indigenous women, those in the 20–24 years age group (133 births per 1,000 women), experienced the highest fertility, followed by those aged 25–29 years (111 births). In comparison, for all women, those aged 30–34 years (107 births) experienced the highest fertility, followed by those aged 25–29 years (104 births).

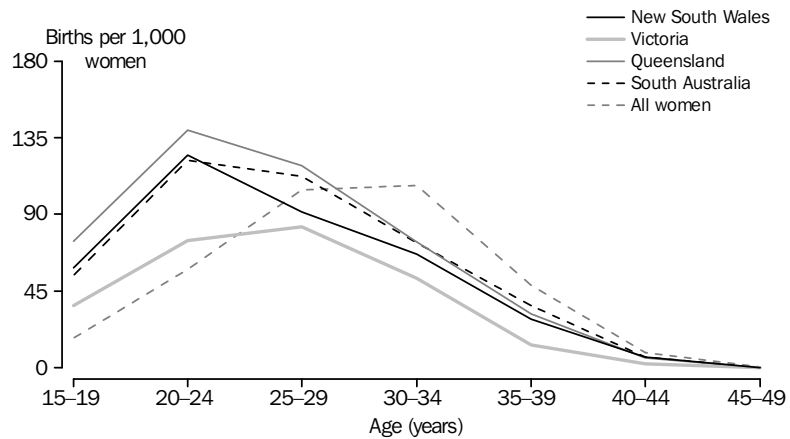
The fertility of Indigenous teenage women aged 19 years and under (76 births per 1,000 women) was more than four times the fertility of all teenage women (18 births). Further, the fertility of Indigenous women aged 20–24 years (133 births) was more than twice the fertility of all women (58 births) in this age group.

**3.3 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES, Indigenous women and all women**

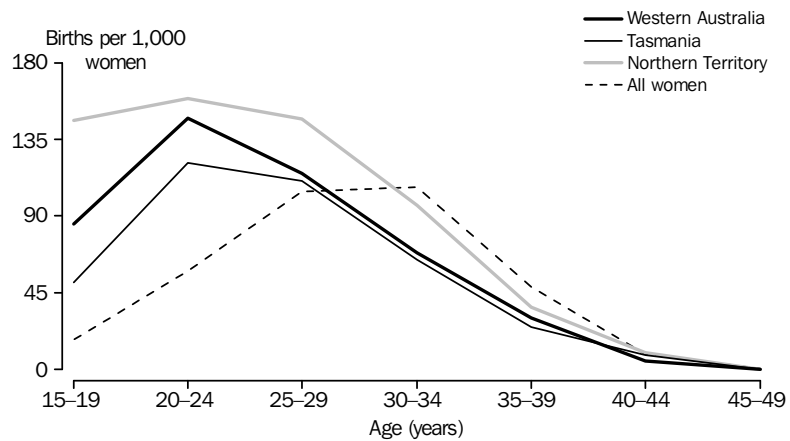


Indigenous women in the Northern Territory experienced the highest fertility in all age groups during 2001. The fertility rate of teenage women living in the Northern Territory (146 births) was more than twice that of all teenage women in the Territory (70 births). Western Australian Indigenous teenagers experienced the second highest fertility rate (85 births).

**3.4 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES, Indigenous mothers—Selected states/territories**



**3.5 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES, Indigenous mothers—Selected states/territories**



**INDIGENOUS BIRTHS**

There were 11,400 births registered in Australia during 2001 where at least one parent was of Indigenous origin. Overall, Indigenous births registered in 2001 accounted for 5% of total births. Queensland, the second most populous state in terms of Indigenous population after New South Wales, had the highest number of Indigenous births in 2001 (3,300) followed by New South Wales (3,100), the Northern Territory (1,700) and Western Australia (1,600). Indigenous births have been the highest in Queensland since 1996, with the improvement in the coverage of Indigenous births in that year, except in 1999 when births in New South Wales outnumbered those in Queensland. However, this may also be associated with the estimated coverage of Indigenous births.

### Median age of parents

Overall, Indigenous women tend to have children at younger ages than all women. In 2001, the median age of Indigenous mothers was 24.8 years, compared to 30.0 years for all women. Indigenous mothers living in the Northern Territory had the lowest median age at 24.1 years, followed by Western Australia (24.3 years). Fathers of Indigenous births also tend to be younger (median age of 27.9 years in 2001) than fathers of all births (32.3 years). The youngest fathers of Indigenous births were in the Northern Territory (27.4 years), followed by Western Australia (27.5 years).

### Indigenous status of parents

For two-fifths of the total Indigenous births (42%) only the mother was Indigenous (including births where paternity was not acknowledged and those where the father's Indigenous status was unknown), for 31% both parents were Indigenous, and for 27% only the father was Indigenous (including births where the mother's Indigenous status was not stated). Western Australia (49%) and the Northern Territory (40%) had the highest proportions of Indigenous births where both parents were Indigenous. The Northern Territory also had the lowest proportion of births (6%) where only the father was Indigenous.

### Nuptiality

Indigenous births are predominantly exnuptial. In 2001, eight out of every ten Indigenous births registered in Australia were exnuptial (81%), compared to three out of every ten for all births (31%). At the state and territory level the highest proportions of exnuptial Indigenous births occurred in the Northern Territory (95%) followed by Western Australia (86%). Australia wide, paternity-acknowledged exnuptial births accounted for 65% of all Indigenous births while paternity-not-acknowledged Indigenous birth accounted for 16% of all Indigenous births. In the Northern Territory, nearly half of all Indigenous births (46%) were paternity-not-acknowledged exnuptial births.

## BIRTH WEIGHT

Birth weight is a useful indicator of the health status of babies. A comparison of the average birth weight of babies of Indigenous mothers with all babies shows that Indigenous babies are generally smaller. According to the Perinatal Data Collection (AIHW, 2001), the average birth weight of babies of Indigenous mothers in 1999 was 3,149g, 211g lower than the average for all babies (3,360g). The average birth weight varied across the states and territories, ranging from 3,072g in the Northern Territory to 3,402g in Tasmania. A higher proportion (13%) of babies of Indigenous mothers were of low birth weight (less than 2,500g), compared to all births (7%).

## INTERNATIONAL INDIGENOUS FERTILITY

In 2000, the TFR of Australian Indigenous mothers (2.2) was marginally above that of the American Indians (2.1), but lower than that of the New Zealand Maori women (2.5). New Zealand Maori women had higher fertility in all age groups than Australian Indigenous women and American Indian women, except for teenagers and those in the 45 years and over age group. Australian Indigenous teenage fertility was marginally higher at 84.7 babies per 1,000 women compared to that of New Zealand Maori women (69.3 babies) and American Indian women (67.8 babies).

## 3.6 INDIGENOUS FERTILITY RATES, 2000—Selected countries

	<i>American Indian women</i>	<i>New Zealand Maori women</i>	<i>Australian Indigenous women</i>
Age specific-fertility rates(a)			
15–19	67.8	69.3	84.7
20–24	135.6	147.3	133.1
25–29	106.9	128.3	113.6
30–34	68.3	98.2	71.2
35–39	32.5	49.7	31.2
40–44	7.3	12.3	7.2
45–49	0.4	0.2	0.4
Total fertility rate(b)	2.094	2.527	2.207

Source: United States National Centre for Health Statistics for American Indian data. Statistics New Zealand for New Zealand Maori data.

(a) Per 1,000 women.

(b) Per woman.

# CHAPTER 4

## SPECIAL ARTICLE: FERTILITY BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH .....

### INTRODUCTION

Nearly one quarter of births registered in Australia in 2000 occurred to women who were born overseas. This level has remained constant over the past decade. The following article discusses the fertility of women in Australia by their country of birth and compares it with the fertility of women in overseas countries. The TFR by country of birth are not yet available for 2001, therefore rates for 2000 have been used in the analysis.

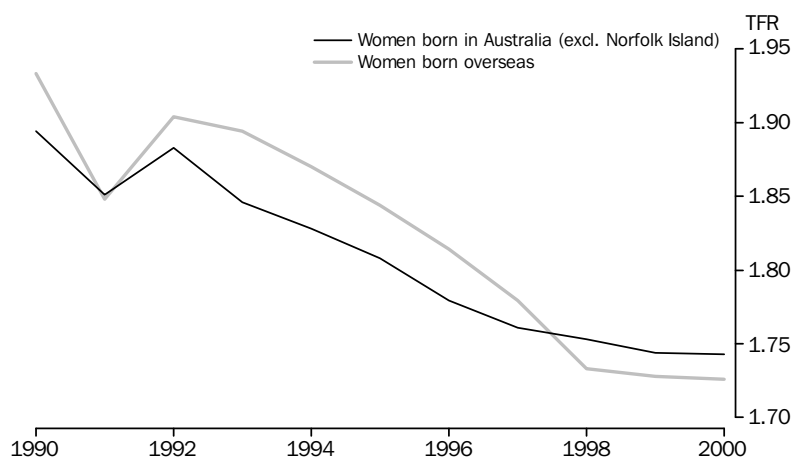
### FERTILITY IN AUSTRALIA

#### Total fertility

During 2000, women resident in Australia who were born overseas had a TFR of 1.73 babies per woman, marginally lower than the fertility of women born in Australia at 1.74. Between 1992 and 1997, the TFR of women born overseas had been higher than for women born in Australia peaking at a 3% difference in 1993. Since then the TFR of both groups of women have declined and since 1998 women born overseas have had lower TFR than women born in Australia.

Between 1990 and 2000, the fertility rate of women resident in Australia who were born overseas declined at an average annual rate of 1.1% each year, most of this decline occurred in the last five years. The fertility of women born in Australia declined by an average 0.8% each year, this decline occurred consistently throughout the ten year period.

#### 4.1 TOTAL FERTILITY RATE



As the following graph shows, in 2000, the age-specific fertility rates of women in Australia who were born overseas are marginally different to the rates for women born in Australia. Women born overseas had lower fertility at the younger ages and higher fertility at the older ages than the respective ages of women born in Australia. This may be related to their delay in child bearing after their arrival in Australia and the settlement

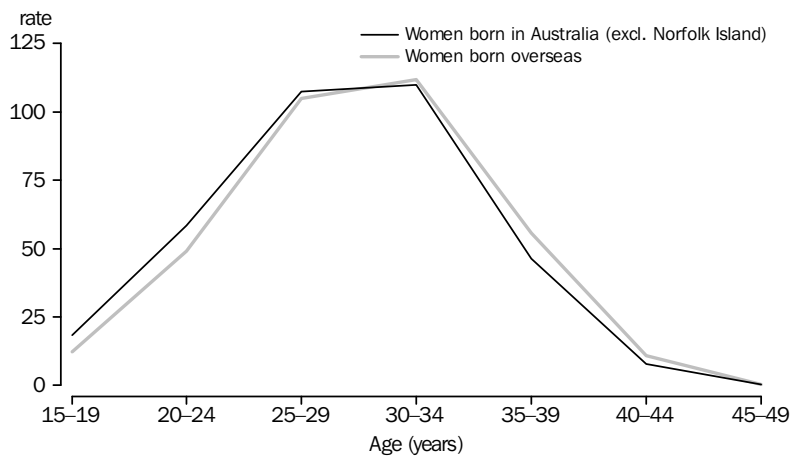


Total fertility *continued*

process before catching up with the fertility of women born in Australia. The age of women when migrating to Australia will also impact on their fertility in Australia. Some women migrate to Australia during the start of their reproductive years while others migrate during or towards the end of their reproductive years. Their TFR in Australia does not take account of any previous children they may have had before arrival in Australia.

If the women who were born overseas experienced the same age-specific fertility rates as the women born in Australia, the fertility rate for Australia would only decrease by 0.2% from its current level.

**4.2 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES, Country of birth**



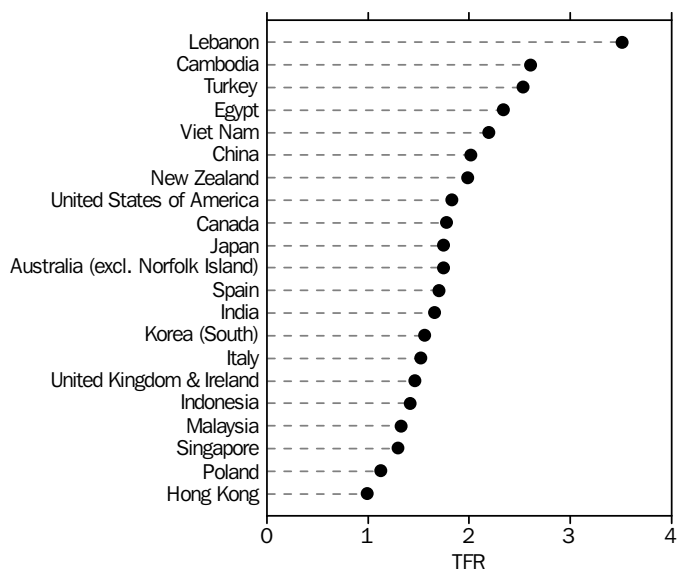
Country of birth

Within the Australian female population who were born overseas and aged 15–49 years in 2000, there is considerable variation in fertility of women from different country of birth groups: ranging from 3.5 babies per woman for those born in Lebanon living in Australia to just under 1.0 for those born in Hong Kong.

In 2000, women born in Lebanon living in Australia were the only group to have a TFR of over three babies per woman. The next highest TFRs were for women born in Cambodia (2.6), Turkey (2.5) and Egypt (2.3).

Women in Australia who were born in Hong Kong were the only country of birth group to have a TFR of less than one baby per woman. Women born in Poland had the next lowest TFR (1.1), followed by those born in Singapore, Malaysia and Greece (each 1.3).

4.3 TOTAL FERTILITY RATES IN AUSTRALIA, Selected countries of birth



Country of birth *continued*

Like Hong Kong, many of the country of birth groups in Australia with low TFRs were from South-East and North-East Asia: for example, women born in Singapore and women born in Malaysia each had a TFR of 1.3 in 2000. One factor keeping the fertility low for some of these groups is the high proportion of female students in their populations in Australia. Overseas students on long-term residence in Australia would be expected to have very low fertility. This may cause the TFR to decline for all women from these country of birth groups. For example, women born in Malaysia had a TFR 24% lower than that for all women in Australia. While the age-specific fertility rates for women born in Malaysia aged 30 years and over were relatively similar to that of all women, the rate for the 20–24 year olds was only 10% of the national average.

Between 1990 and 2000, women born in Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Japan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Uruguay and Viet Nam were the only country of birth groups to experience an (average annual) increase in fertility. China (3.2%) and Uruguay (2.2%) experienced the largest average annual increases. The fertility rates of all other country of birth groups declined with the fertility of women born in Poland (–5.4%), Israel (–4.0%), Hong Kong (–3.9%) and Cyprus (–3.9%) showing the largest (average annual) declines.

## 4.4 TOTAL FERTILITY RATES IN AUSTRALIA, Selected countries of birth(a)

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Average annual change %
Argentina	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.8	-0.9
<b>Australia (excl. Norfolk Island)</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>-0.8</b>
Austria	1.9	1.5	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.4	1.8	1.3	1.5	1.7	-1.0
Burma (Myanmar)	1.6	1.6	1.2	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.5	1.8	1.2	1.6	—
Cambodia	2.3	2.1	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.6	1.2
Canada	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.8	0.5
Chile	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.8	0.1
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan Province)	1.5	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.2
Cyprus	2.3	2.1	2.2	1.9	2.0	1.7	2.0	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.5	-3.9
Denmark	1.9	1.7	2.2	1.8	2.2	1.6	1.7	1.7	2.0	1.9	1.7	-1.4
Egypt	2.4	2.1	2.4	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.3	-0.4
Fiji	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.0	2.2	-0.2
Former Yugoslav Republics(b)	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.5	-2.3
France	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	-1.5
Germany	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.6	-1.3
Greece	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.3	-1.2
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.0	1.0	-3.9
India	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.7	1.7	-1.5
Indonesia	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.4	-2.9
Iran	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.5	-0.3
Israel	2.9	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.8	2.6	2.3	1.8	1.9	-4.0
Italy	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	-0.9
Japan	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.6
Korea (South)	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.6	-2.3
Laos	2.0	1.9	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.9	-0.2
Lebanon	3.9	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.5	-0.9
Malaysia	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.3	-2.2
Malta	2.3	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.3	1.5	1.7	-2.9
Mauritius	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.5	-2.1
Netherlands	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	-1.1
New Zealand	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	-0.9
Papua New Guinea	1.9	2.0	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	-0.4
Philippines	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.9	2.0	-1.8
Poland	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.1	-5.4
Portugal	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.7	-0.7
Romania	2.2	2.9	2.4	2.5	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.5	1.9	-1.3
Singapore	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.8	1.3	-2.0
South Africa	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.4	-1.4
Spain	1.7	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.9	1.9	1.5	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.7	0.3
Sri Lanka	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.2
Switzerland	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.0	1.6	-2.5
Thailand	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.4	-1.4
Turkey	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	-0.5
United Kingdom & Ireland	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	-2.2
United States of America	2.0	1.8	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	-0.9
Uruguay	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.9	2.2
Viet Nam	2.2	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.1	1.7	1.9	2.2	0.2
<i>Total overseas born</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>-1.1</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>-0.9</b>

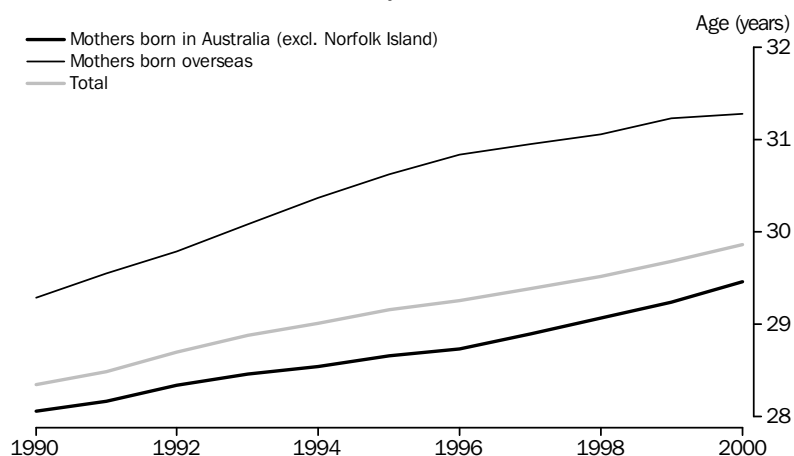
(a) Excludes countries with less than 100 births registered during 2000.

(b) Former Yugoslav Republics Consists of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republics of Serbia and Montenegro, and Yugoslavia n.f.d.

## Age differentials

Overall, the median age of mothers giving birth (that is the age where half the mothers were younger and half were older), both for women born in Australia and overseas, has been increasing over time. Generally, the mothers who were born overseas were older than the mothers who were born in Australia. A decade ago, the median age of mothers born overseas was 29.3 years while the median age of mothers who were born in Australia was 28.1 years. By 2000, the median age of mothers born overseas had increased to 31.3 years, while the median age of mothers born in Australia increased to 29.5 years.

Like the TFR, the median age of mothers giving birth in Australia varied according to their country of birth. In 2000, women born in Lebanon, who had the highest TFR, had the second youngest median age (28.8 years). The mothers born in Italy, who had a fairly low TFR, were the oldest (34.1 years).

**4.5 MEDIAN AGE OF MOTHER, Country of birth**

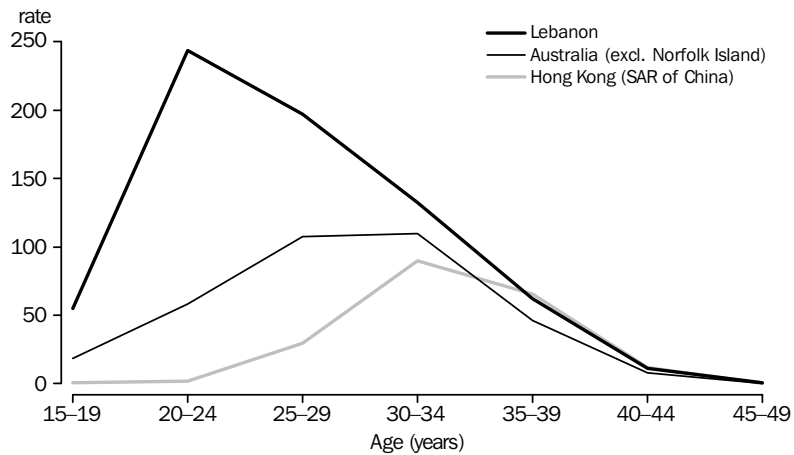
The ages at which births occurred varied substantially by country of birth of women and can be influenced by their age of arrival in Australia. In 2000, women born in Lebanon living in Australia experienced high fertility in the younger age groups (15–29 years), similarly for those born in Turkey and those born in Cambodia. Women born in Japan, China and Canada had high fertility in the older age groups (30–44 years). Women born in Austria had high fertility in the 45–49 years age group.

In Australia, women born in Hong Kong and Singapore had low fertility in the younger age groups and in the 45–49 years age group as did many other country of birth groups for these ages. Women born in the Former Yugoslav Republics, Poland and Malta had low fertility in the 30–44 years age groups.

The fertility level of women born in Australia was around the middle of all country of birth groups in all age groups.

Age differentials *continued*

The following graph gives the age-specific fertility rates experienced by women in Australia who were born in Lebanon, with the highest TFR, and by women who were born in Hong Kong, with the lowest TFR, compared with those born in Australia.

**4.6 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES, Country of birth**

## INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON

Current fertility levels indicate that many women in Australia who were born overseas appear to adopt a similar fertility level as those who were born in Australia. In other words, they do not necessarily keep the same level of fertility as women in their country of birth. There are several reasons why this may happen. The attitudes and situations of the women in Australia who were born overseas may not necessarily be similar to those in their country of birth. The fertility of the women migrating to Australia may also be affected by their reasons for migrating such as study or work and by their age at arrival. One exception to this is women born in Lebanon who have a much higher level of fertility in Australia (3.5) than the women in Lebanon (2.2). Other women in Australia born in countries such as Turkey continue to have a similar level of fertility in Australia (2.5) as women in Turkey (2.3).

When comparing the level of fertility of women born overseas living in Australia to that of women in their country of birth, the most extreme difference noted was for women from Laos. These women had a similar level of fertility to the women born in Australia (1.9) while the fertility of women in Laos was much higher (4.8). Similarly, the fertility of women born in Papua New Guinea but living in Australia (1.8) was nowhere near as high as the fertility of women in Papua New Guinea (4.3).

Conversely, women born in Spain living in Australia also had a fertility rate similar to the women born in Australia (1.7) but the fertility of women in Spain was much lower (1.1).

## 4.7 SELECTED FERTILITY MEASURES AND CHARACTERISTICS, Selected countries

Country of birth	TFR in country of birth(a) rate	TFR in Australia 2000 rate	Average issue 1996(b) per woman	Median age of mother 2000 years	Total female ERP 2000(c) no.	Female ERP aged 15–49 year 2000(c) %
Argentina	2.4	1.8	2.1	30.4	6 103	62.1
<b>Australia (excl. Norfolk Island)</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>7 373 343</b>	<b>50.0</b>
Austria	1.2	1.7	2.0	31.3	9 650	29.3
Burma (Myanmar)	2.8	1.6	2.1	32.9	6 656	55.0
Cambodia	4.8	2.6	3.2	29.0	12 206	76.8
Canada	1.6	1.8	1.8	32.4	14 426	70.3
Chile	2.4	1.8	2.3	30.1	13 019	64.8
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan Province)	1.8	2.0	2.0	33.1	87 040	63.7
Cyprus	1.9	1.5	2.4	31.6	12 405	47.0
Denmark	1.7	1.7	2.1	32.3	3 783	55.0
Egypt	2.9	2.3	2.2	31.8	18 357	40.5
Fiji	3.0	2.2	2.4	29.4	21 503	75.2
Former Yugoslav Republics(d)	1.6	1.5	2.2	31.1	101 628	49.2
France	1.8	1.6	1.9	32.9	9 358	58.4
Germany	1.3	1.6	2.0	33.0	61 107	30.0
Greece	1.2	1.3	2.4	32.9	69 503	25.9
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	1.2	1.0	1.9	33.7	29 089	81.8
India	3.0	1.7	2.1	30.7	50 486	57.7
Indonesia	2.3	1.4	2.3	29.4	34 535	78.0
Iran	2.8	1.5	2.2	31.7	9 505	69.2
Israel	2.7	1.9	2.3	30.4	3 710	63.5
Italy	1.2	1.5	2.5	34.1	113 363	22.5
Japan	1.3	1.7	1.6	32.2	15 164	80.5
Korea (South)	2.1	1.6	2.1	30.3	20 854	74.2
Laos	4.8	1.9	3.1	29.6	5 311	80.7
Lebanon	2.2	3.5	3.7	28.8	38 105	70.9
Malaysia	2.9	1.3	1.9	32.6	51 720	77.2
Malta	1.8	1.7	2.6	31.8	26 391	32.6
Mauritius	1.9	1.5	2.3	32.9	9 487	60.9
Netherlands	1.5	1.6	2.5	32.3	43 013	29.5
New Zealand	2.0	1.8	2.2	29.8	182 386	67.9
Papua New Guinea	4.3	1.8	2.7	30.2	14 472	81.5
Philippines	3.2	2.0	1.8	31.3	77 398	72.8
Poland	1.3	1.1	1.7	30.5	35 584	40.7
Portugal	1.5	1.7	2.2	29.9	7 909	62.9
Romania	1.3	1.9	2.0	30.1	7 003	59.2
Singapore	1.5	1.3	1.7	31.7	16 415	84.5
South Africa	2.9	1.4	2.2	31.1	39 993	62.8
Spain	1.1	1.7	2.3	31.8	5 623	49.2
Sri Lanka	2.1	1.9	1.9	32.0	27 576	62.7
Switzerland	1.4	1.6	1.8	32.6	4 647	57.7
Thailand	2.0	1.4	1.7	31.1	14 166	82.0
Turkey	2.3	2.5	2.8	29.1	15 253	70.7
United Kingdom & Ireland	1.6	1.5	2.2	33.1	571 761	44.9
United States of America	1.9	1.8	1.8	32.5	28 875	64.4
Uruguay	2.3	1.9	2.0	31.1	4 909	54.7
Viet Nam	2.3	2.2	2.6	29.7	87 791	79.3

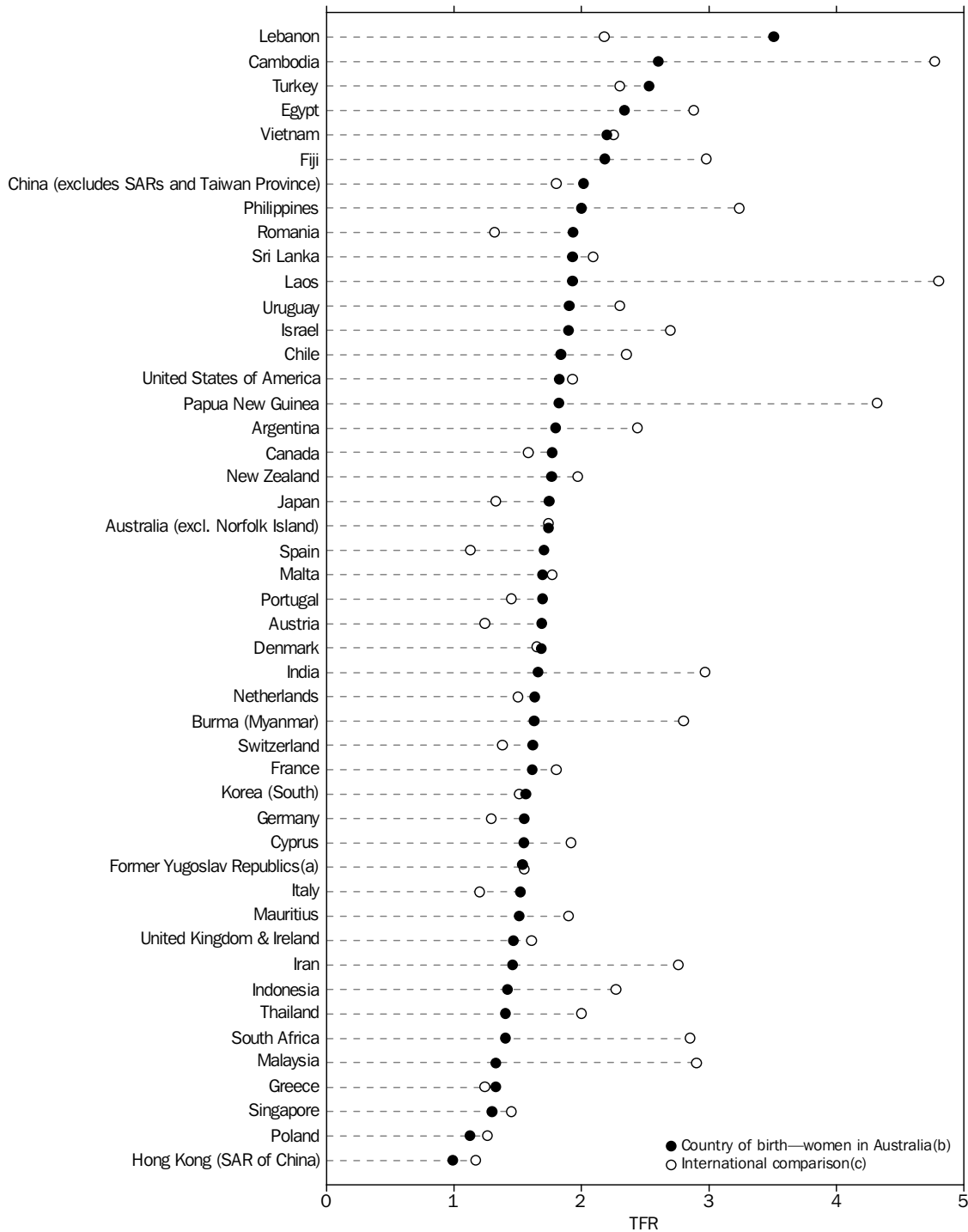
(a) Source: United Nations Statistical Divisions web site.

(c) Female estimated resident population (ERP) of Australia at 30 June 2000.

(b) Source: 1996 Census of Population and Housing, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). Average issue of women aged 45–49 years, calculated by assuming that women with 6 or more children had an average of 6.9 children at the 1996 Census.

(d) For the TFR in Australian, Former Yugoslav Republics consists of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republics of Serbia and Montenegro, and Yugoslavia n.f.d. For the United Nations TFR data refers to Yugoslavia.

4.8 TOTAL FERTILITY RATES, Selected countries of birth of women in Australia and international comparison



(a) For the Australian TFR, Former Yugoslav Republics Consists of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republics of Serbia and Montenegro, and Yugoslavia n.f.d. For the United Nations TFR data refers to Yugoslavia.

(b) Source: ABS, Birth Registrations, 2000. Estimated female resident population by country of birth at 30 June 2000.

(c) Source: United Nations Statistical Divisions web site.

Although fertility rates are often discussed at a national level, fertility is by no means constant across Australia. In particular, studies have revealed a 'clear gradation of increasing fertility from metropolitan to other urban and rural areas' (Bell, 1990, p. 2). This article examines fertility differentials across Australia, firstly at the Statistical Local Area (SLA) level, and secondly, according to the remoteness of the area as measured by the Remoteness Structure newly developed as part of the *Australian Standard Geographical Classification* (ASGC) (cat. no. 1216.0).

**METHOD**

Indirect standardised birth rates (ISBR) were calculated for each SLA in Australia, and for Australia as a whole.<sup>1</sup> Normal distribution (or Z statistic) was used to measure the difference between the ISBR for each SLA and the ISBR for Australia.<sup>2</sup> The hypothesis tested was that there was no statistical difference between the ISBR for the SLA and for Australia, at 5% level of significance.

A three-point scale was used to show whether fertility in each SLA was higher than, similar to, or lower than the national ISBR. SLAs with an ISBR significantly different from (greater than 1.96 standard errors [SE] above or below) the national ISBR were deemed to have fertility rates higher or lower than average, while SLAs with a non-significant ISBR (within ±1.96 SE of the national ISBR) were regarded as having average fertility. A total of 119 SLAs were excluded from the analysis, having recorded an average 10 or fewer births per year over the three years to 2001.

Fertility differentials by Remoteness Area (RA) were measured using age-specific and total fertility rates<sup>3</sup>, as there were sufficient births at this level of detail for the robust calculation of these rates.

**REGIONAL FERTILITY DIFFERENTIALS BY SLA**

The majority (815 or 60%) of SLAs have average ISBRs which are not significantly different when compared with Australia as a whole. Taken together, these SLAs represent 44% of Australia's female population in the reproductive age group of 15–49 years. The ISBRs of 237 SLAs (18%), encompassing 30% of reproductive-aged women, are significantly higher than the national ISBR. The ISBRs of a further 182 SLAs (13%), representing 26% of reproductive-aged women, are significantly lower.

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<sup>1</sup> Indirect standardised birth rates were calculated using the average number of births registered over the three years 1999 to 2001, the crude birth rate and age-specific fertility rates for 1991 (as standard), and the female population at reproductive ages 15–49 years (in five-year age groups) for each SLA at 30 June 2000. Data from all years have been matched to 2001 ASGC boundaries.

<sup>2</sup>  $Z \text{ statistic} = \frac{ISBR(SLA) - ISBR(Australia)}{ISBR(SLA) / \sqrt{n}}$  where n=observed births in the SLA.

<sup>3</sup> Total fertility rates were calculated using average births over the three years 1999 to 2001, and the female population at reproductive ages 15–49 years (in five-year age groups) for each Remoteness Area at 30 June 2000.



#### SLAs with low fertility

Victoria and South Australia share the highest proportion (each 16% of the state's total) of SLAs with ISBRs significantly lower than the ISBR for Australia ( $<1.96$  SE). In contrast only one Tasmanian SLA and six Northern Territory SLAs (9%) have significantly lower fertility when compared to Australia.

Among SLAs with low ISBRs, the median ISBR varies from 8.8 births per 1,000 population in Queensland to 11.6 births per 1,000 population in New South Wales. The SLA with the lowest ISBR (3.0 births per 1,000) is Melbourne (C) - Southbank-Docklands.

#### SLAs with average fertility

Victoria has the highest proportion (72%) of SLAs with ISBRs that are not significantly different from the national ISBR. Over half the SLAs in each state and territory, with the exception of New South Wales (49%), fall into this category.

Among SLAs with ISBRs which are not significantly different from the national ISBR, the median varies from 12.7 births per 1,000 population in the Australian Capital Territory to 16.4 births per 1,000 population in Western Australia.

#### SLAs with high fertility

New South Wales has the highest proportion (35%) of SLAs with ISBRs significantly higher ( $>1.96$  SE) than the national ISBR, followed by the Northern Territory (28%). At the other extreme, only 3 SLAs (3%) in the Australian Capital Territory have ISBRs significantly higher than average.

Among SLAs with high ISBRs, the median ISBR varies from 17.0 births per 1,000 population in Victoria to 20.8 births per 1,000 population in the Northern Territory. The SLA with the highest ISBR is Kondinin (S) (28.9 births per 1,000 population) in Western Australia.

## 5.1 VARIATION IN FERTILITY, States and territories(a)

Classification of ISBR	SLAs Females			SLA with lowest ISBR.....		SLA with highest ISBR.....		
	no.	%(b)	Median ISBR	SLA	ISBR	SLA	ISBR	
NSW	Below national average	24	7.9	11.6	Sydney (C) - Remainder	4.3	Newcastle (C) - Remainder	12.9
	Same as national average	98	8.7	15.7	Cabonne (A) - Pt A	9.6	Urana (A)	22.0
	Above national average	70	16.9	17.2	Lake Macquarie (C)	15.0	Severn (A)	22.7
	10 or fewer births	7	—	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Vic.	Below national average	31	8.5	10.9	Melbourne (C) - S'bank-D'lands	3.0	Knox (C) - North	13.1
	Same as national average	144	13.7	14.9	Greater Geelong (C) - Pt C	12.0	Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B	23.4
	Above national average	21	2.8	17.0	Hume (C) - Broadmeadows	15.1	Swan Hill (RC) - Robinvale	24.1
	10 or fewer births	4	—	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Qld	Below national average	67	2.8	8.8	St Lucia	3.2	Toowoomba (C) - South-East	12.3
	Same as national average	286	10.7	14.5	Bilinga	10.3	Blackall (S)	21.3
	Above national average	71	5.1	18.2	Beaudesert (S) - Pt A	15.8	Torres (S)	24.9
	10 or fewer births	30	0.1	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
SA	Below national average	20	2.2	11.2	Adelaide (C)	5.0	Marion (C) - North	12.4
	Same as national average	80	4.4	15.0	Walkerville (M)	11.9	Elliston (DC)	20.6
	Above national average	15	0.9	18.4	Salisbury (C) - Inner North	15.7	Ceduna (DC)	21.8
	10 or fewer births	10	—	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
WA	Below national average	17	4.0	11.4	Perth (C) - Remainder	4.3	Joondalup (C) - South	13.0
	Same as national average	80	2.6	16.4	Peppermint Grove (S)	10.4	Mingenew (S)	25.9
	Above national average	29	3.3	18.1	Rockingham (C)	15.1	Kondinin (S)	28.9
	10 or fewer births	30	0.1	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Tas.	Below national average	1	0.3	10.5	Hobart (C) - Remainder	10.5	Hobart (C) - Remainder	10.5
	Same as national average	30	1.4	15.9	Central Coast (M) - Pt B	11.2	Hobart (C) - Inner	24.9
	Above national average	10	0.7	17.9	Glenorchy (C)	15.8	Brighton (M)	21.1
	10 or fewer births	3	—	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
NT	Below national average	6	0.1	9.6	City - Inner	5.7	Alice Springs (T) - Stuart	9.9
	Same as national average	33	0.6	15.5	Tiwi	11.0	Cox-Finiss	19.6
	Above national average	18	0.5	20.8	Alice Springs (T) - Larapinta	16.7	Gulf	26.9
	10 or fewer births	8	—	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
ACT	Below national average	16	0.3	8.1	Phillip	4.3	Florey	11.1
	Same as national average	64	1.4	12.7	Duntroon	9.2	Garran	19.5
	Above national average	3	0.1	18.8	Ngunnawal	16.2	Conder	19.0
	10 or fewer births	24	—	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
<b>Australia</b>		<b>1 353</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>n.a.</b>	<b>n.a.</b>	<b>n.a.</b>	<b>n.a.</b>	<b>n.a.</b>

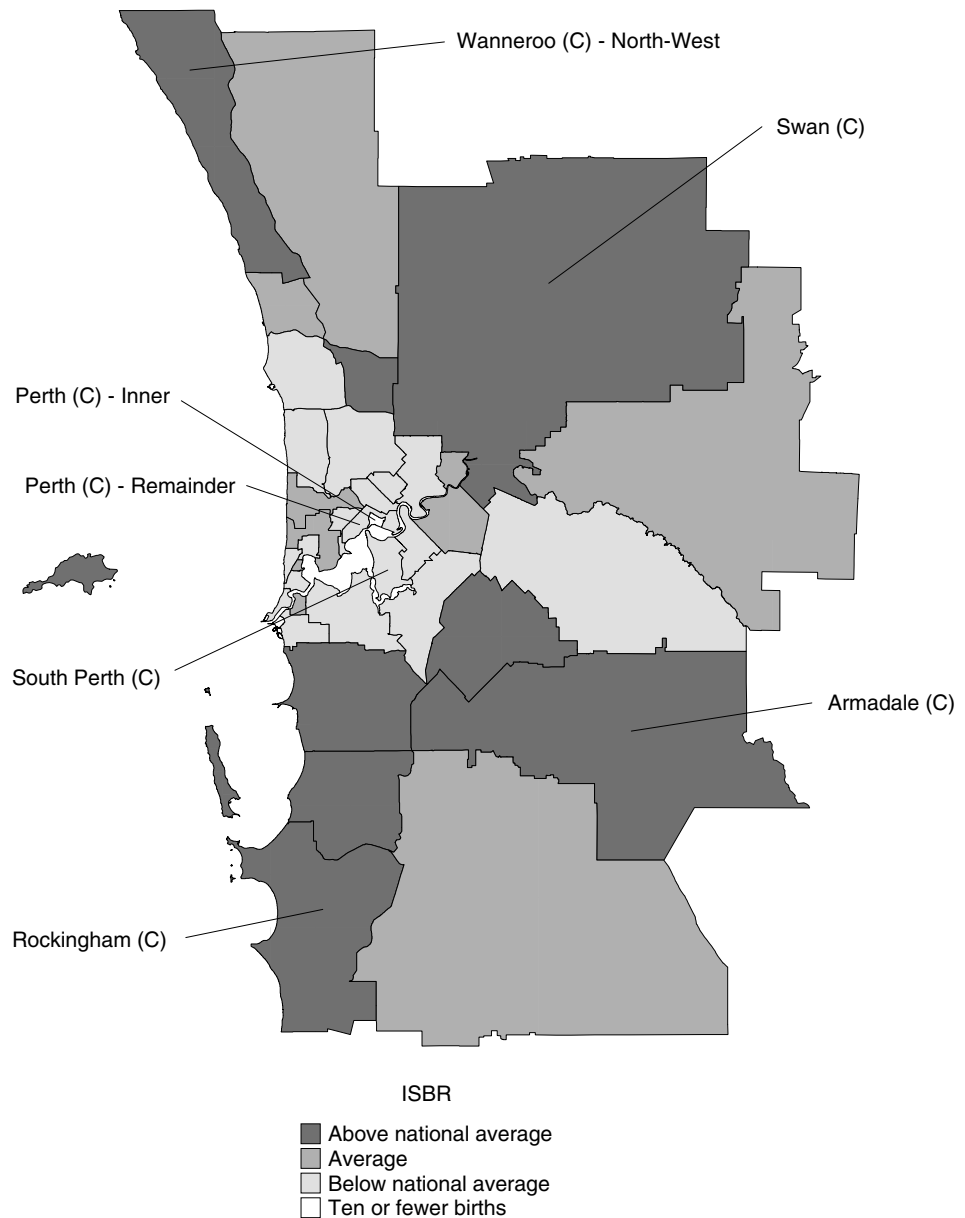
(a) Using the average number of births over the three years to 2001, and the female ERP at 30 June 2000.

(b) As a percentage of total women aged 15–49 years.

REGIONAL FERTILITY DIFFERENTIALS BY SLA *continued*

Mapping the variation in fertility shows that SLAs with low ISBRs are concentrated within inner city areas, increasing to higher fertility in suburban areas. As an example, the spatial variation in fertility within the Perth Statistical Division (SD) is depicted in Figure 5.2. On the outskirts of several cities (notably Perth), there is a belt of SLAs with high ISBRs, which then gives way to SLAs with a combination of high and average ISBRs outside of the capital city SD. This combination exists across the rest of Australia, among regional and remote SLAs.

**5.2** ISBRs of SLAs in Perth SD



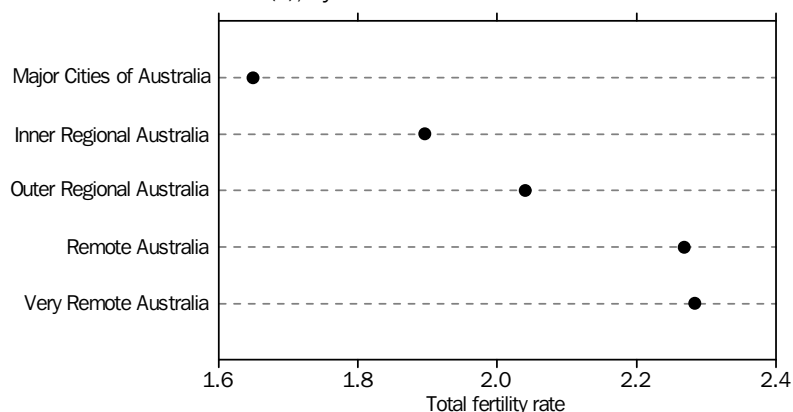
## FERTILITY DIFFERENTIALS BY REMOTENESS AREA

The latest edition of the *Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)* (cat. no. 1216.0) is the first to include a structure describing Australia in terms of a measurement of Remoteness. The Remoteness Structure is defined only in census years, commencing in 2001, and is based on census Collection Districts (CDs). The purpose of the structure is to aggregate CDs which share common characteristics of remoteness into six broad geographical regions called Remoteness Areas (RAs): Major Cities of Australia, Inner Regional Australia, Outer Regional Australia, Remote Australia, Very Remote Australia, and Migratory<sup>1</sup>. While these spatial units do not align with the Main Structure of the ASGC, they have been concorded with SLAs on 2001 boundaries for the purposes of this article.

## Total fertility by Remoteness Area

Total fertility rates confirm that Australian fertility varies according to Remoteness Area, such that there is a clear gradation of increasing fertility from city areas to remote and regional areas. Women living in Australia's Major Cities (69% of women aged 15–49 years) have the lowest total fertility rate of 1.65 babies per woman, followed by women (19%) in Inner Regional Australia (1.90) and women (10%) in Outer Regional Australia (2.04). Women living in Remote (2%) and Very Remote (1%) Australia have the highest total fertility rates at 2.27 and 2.28 respectively.

## 5.3 TOTAL FERTILITY RATE(a), by Remoteness Area



(a) Using average births 1999–2001 and female ERP at 30 June 2000.

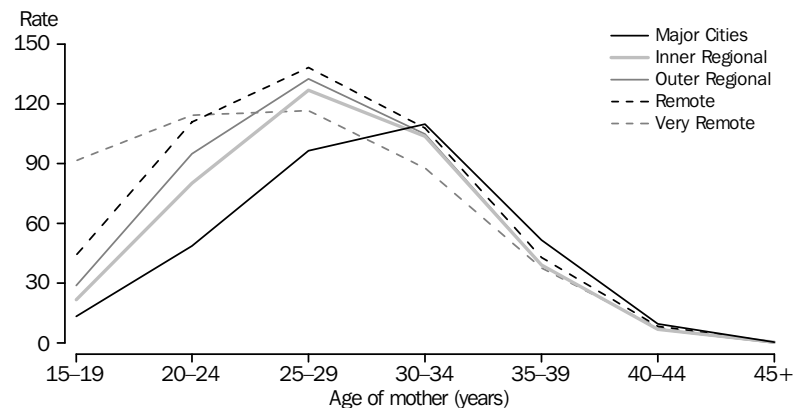
## Regional fertility differentials by age of mother

The distribution of births to women of different ages varies considerably between Remoteness Areas. It is evident that the gradation of increasing fertility from Australia's Major Cities to Regional and Remote Australia is largely due to fertility differentials at younger ages.

In Major Cities of Australia the peak childbearing age is 30–34 years, with a considerably lower fertility rate at younger ages than the remaining Remoteness Areas, and a slightly higher fertility rate at older ages. In Inner Regional and Outer Regional Australia, the fertility rate is highest for women aged 25–29 years, followed by women aged 30–34 years, and women aged 20–24 years. In Remote Australia, a similar pattern exists, although women aged 20–24 years have the second highest fertility rate.

<sup>1</sup> See Explanatory Note 8 for definitions of Remoteness Areas.

#### 5.4 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES, by Remoteness Area—2000



In Very Remote Australia, age-specific fertility rates reveal a different pattern. Although the peak childbearing age among women in Very Remote areas is also 25–29 years by a small margin, the fertility rate among women aged 20–24 years is almost as high, and is higher than the rate for women of this age in any other Remoteness Area. The difference is most evident among women aged 15–19 years. The teenage fertility rate is 91.6 babies per 1,000 women in Very Remote Australia, compared to 44.2 in Remote Australia and 13.3 in Major Cities of Australia.

#### INDIGENOUS POPULATION AND REGIONAL FERTILITY DIFFERENTIALS

The TFR among Indigenous women in Australia, at 2.14 babies per woman in 2001, is considerably higher than the TFR for Australia as a whole (1.73). Since Indigenous Australians are more likely to live in remote areas than the rest of the population, higher Indigenous fertility may contribute towards higher total fertility in remote areas of Australia.

##### Indigenous population and fertility by SLA

It is not possible to calculate the ISBR for Indigenous women by SLA, due to the small number of births. However, across SLAs, a positive correlation exists (coefficient=0.28) between the ISBR for all women and the proportion of the female population in reproductive age groups that is Indigenous. This shows that SLAs which have a higher proportion of Indigenous women (aged 15–49 years) tend to have higher fertility. The correlation is stronger (coefficient=0.56) when the analysis is restricted to only those SLAs with ISBRs that are above the national ISBR.

##### Indigenous population and fertility by Remoteness Area

ISBRs in SLAs which fall into each Remoteness Area reveal that there is only a weak correlation between the ISBR and the proportion of the female population aged 15–49 years that is Indigenous (coefficient=<0.1) in Major Cities of Australia and in Inner Regional Australia. Indigenous women aged 15–49 years in SLAs which fall into these Remoteness Areas account for 1% and 2% of the total female population in these RAs respectively. The correlation is strongest in Outer Regional Australia (6% Indigenous; coefficient=0.49), followed by Remote Australia (12% Indigenous; coefficient=0.30) and Very Remote Australia (35% Indigenous; coefficient=0.28).

## OTHER FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO REGIONAL FERTILITY DIFFERENTIALS

Higher Indigenous fertility in the more remote areas of Australia is one factor among several that may contribute towards regional fertility variation within Australia.

Hank (2002) suggests that 'regional social contexts' may affect levels of fertility through economic opportunities and constraints, community norms, and the local labour market structure. However, his study of regional fertility differentials in Germany indicates that most regional variation in fertility results from differences in the spatial distribution of individual characteristics (such as age, educational attainment, marital status, and country of birth).

Past analyses of Australian fertility differentials have indicated a positive relationship between social disadvantage and the TFR, and an even stronger relationship between education/occupation and the TFR (See *Births, Australia, 1998*, cat. no. 3301.0, p. 34).

## Access to health services

According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), people living in rural and remote areas have less access to health care compared with those living in metropolitan areas, as measured by indicators such as the supply of General Practitioners and pharmacists (retail), the proportion of health care provided by nurses, and the number per capita of medical specialists (AIHW, 1998, p.viii).

Relatively poor access to health services in rural and remote Australian populations is a recognised factor in the poorer health of these populations (AIHW, 2002), and may also contribute to higher levels of fertility in rural and remote areas. Women living in these areas are likely to face greater difficulties in obtaining medical supplies, medical procedures and sexual education.

## INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON

Differences between urban and rural fertility are 'among the strongest and most persistent fertility differentials throughout the world' (Bell 1990, p. 2). TFRs vary from 1.5 to 2.5 babies per woman in regions of New Zealand (Statistics New Zealand, 2001), for example, and between about 0.9 to 1.9 babies per woman in German districts (Hank 2002, p. 2). Data from New Zealand's 1996 Census, as in previous studies, shows the average number of children ever born increasing from main urban areas to other urban and rural areas (Statistics New Zealand, 2002; Department of Statistics, 1979, p.16). Variation is related to educational achievement and ethnic differentials, as well as factors influencing locally perceived ideal family size.

In less developed countries, governments have frequently acknowledged urban-rural fertility differentials. High rural fertility has been the major focus of population control and family planning programmes in countries such as China (Gu and Yang 1991, p. 4) and Peru (Angeles et al. 2001, p. 18).

Factors found to be contributing to regional variations in fertility in these countries as well as in India (Thiruvengadasamy 1992), the Philippines (Westley et al. 1996), and sub-Saharan Africa (Shapiro and Tambashe, 2001) include differences in women's education, contraceptive prevalence, age at first marriage, religious and cultural traditions, and child mortality.

INTRODUCTION

In a number of statistical collections, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has questioned women as to whether they had ever borne a child, and if so, how many children they had borne (referred to as total issue data). This information is useful for fertility studies which may impact on policies related to childcare, women's employment and family benefits.

Population censuses in Australia prior to the 1981 census collected total issue data from women who had ever married. In 1981, this data was collected from all women. The 1991 and 2001 censuses did not collect this information.

The same information from a nationally representative sample was collected in the 1992 Survey of Families in Australia (SFA) and the 2001 National Health Survey (NHS). The results from the 2001 NHS provide the latest information on total issue of women. This article utilises this information and examines average issue, childlessness and women with one, two and three or more children by age of women.

2001 NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY

Table 6.1 presents the number of children ever born to all women in Australia for each year the information was collected since 1981. The information is sourced from different statistical collections, so although comparisons can be made over time, total issue is not strictly comparable between collections. In particular, in contrast to the census, the 2001 NHS and the 1992 SFA were sample surveys, where the results could be affected by sampling error. In the SFA, use of personal interviews to collect survey data may have reduced the non-sampling error. In the women's supplement to the NHS, as with the censuses, questionnaires were left with respondents who completed them themselves. Also, in contrast with both the censuses and the SFA, the question on total issue in the NHS was voluntary, and it is possible that those who chose not to respond had different levels of total issue than those who responded.

In the 2001 NHS, only women aged 18–64 years were requested to respond to the question on total issue. Some women in this age group did not respond, so the respondents represented 91% of all women in Australia in this age group (the question was asked as part of a voluntary series of questions on breastfeeding). This is comparable with response rates for total issue questions in the censuses (92% for the 1981 and 1986 censuses, 96% for the 1996 census) and the SFA (approximately 96%).

AVERAGE ISSUE

In table 6.1, women are classified by the number of children they ever had by the date of the census or survey. The data reveal a decline over time in the average number of children by age of women. Thus, women who were 25–29 years of age in 1981 (born in 1952–1956) had 1.3 children on average compared to 0.8 children ever born to women of the same age in 2001 (born in 1972–1976).

At earlier ages the decline in average issue may be related to the postponement of childbearing, but at 40–44 years, average issue more or less depicts completed fertility.

## 6.1 CHILDREN EVER BORN AND AVERAGE ISSUE, All women aged 20–44 years

## NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN.....

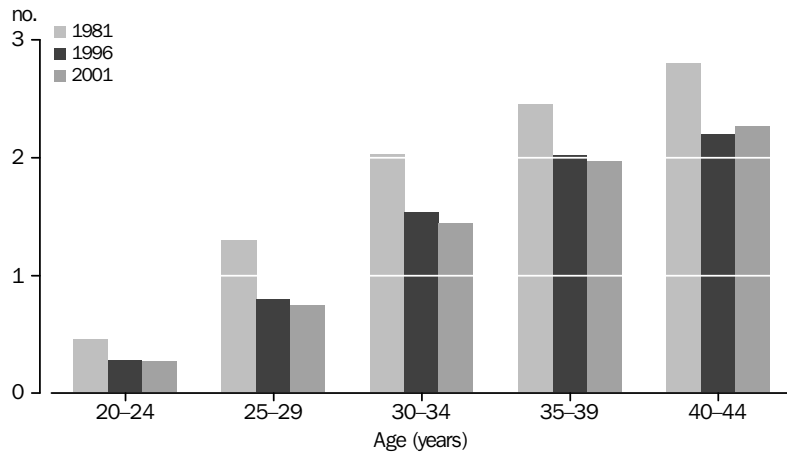
Age of women/birth cohort	Source	None	One child	Two children	Three children	Four or more children	Average issue(a)
		%	%	%	%	%	no.
<b>20–24 years</b>							
Birth cohort of							
1977–1981	2001 NHS	81.3	12.3	4.9	1.2	0.2	0.27
1972–1976	1996 Census	81.5	11.6	5.2	1.3	0.4	0.28
1968–1972	1992 SFA	80.1	12.3	5.7	1.5	0.4	0.30
1962–1966	1986 Census	75.4	14.6	7.7	1.8	0.5	0.37
1957–1961	1981 Census	70.2	17.4	9.6	2.2	0.5	0.46
<b>25–29 years</b>							
Birth cohort of							
1972–1976	2001 NHS	59.3	18.5	12.5	7.2	2.6	0.75
1967–1971	1996 Census	56.3	19.4	16.1	5.9	2.2	0.79
1963–1967	1992 SFA	48.6	22.1	19.5	7.2	2.5	0.93
1957–1961	1986 Census	42.8	20.9	24.1	9.2	3.1	1.10
1952–1956	1981 Census	34.8	21.4	28.9	11.3	3.6	1.29
<b>30–34 years</b>							
Birth cohort of							
1967–1971	2001 NHS	33.6	19.2	26.7	14.1	6.4	1.44
1962–1966	1996 Census	29.0	18.8	30.7	15.0	6.4	1.54
1958–1962	1992 SFA	23.2	17.5	32.3	18.4	8.7	1.76
1952–1956	1986 Census	19.9	15.4	36.2	20.0	8.5	1.85
1947–1951	1981 Census	15.2	13.6	38.9	22.3	10.0	2.03
<b>35–39 years</b>							
Birth cohort of							
1962–1966	2001 NHS	17.5	14.1	36.5	20.9	11.0	1.97
1957–1961	1996 Census	16.8	13.3	36.7	22.3	10.9	2.02
1953–1957	1992 SFA	13.4	11.1	37.1	25.7	12.7	2.19
1947–1951	1986 Census	11.9	10.5	38.9	25.2	13.5	2.24
1942–1946	1981 Census	10.0	9.1	35.8	27.0	18.1	2.45
<b>40–44 years</b>							
Birth cohort of							
1957–1961	2001 NHS	13.4	8.6	39.9	23.2	15.0	2.27
1952–1956	1996 Census	12.8	11.3	38.2	24.6	13.1	2.20
1948–1952	1992 SFA	10.4	11.3	38.3	26.3	13.6	2.27
1942–1946	1986 Census	9.7	8.7	35.6	27.0	18.9	2.49
1937–1941	1981 Census	8.5	7.6	29.0	27.4	27.6	2.80
<b>20–44 years(b)</b>							
	2001 NHS	41.6	14.7	23.8	13.1	6.9	1.32
	1996 Census	39.8	15.0	25.1	13.6	6.5	1.35
	1992 SFA	35.6	15.0	26.3	15.6	7.5	1.47
	1986 Census	32.4	14.2	28.4	16.4	8.7	1.59
	1981 Census	28.1	14.0	28.5	17.8	11.6	1.78

(a) Average issue was calculated on the assumption that women with six or more children had an average of 6.9 children.

(b) Figures for women aged 20–44 years have been standardised according to the age structure of women in 1991.



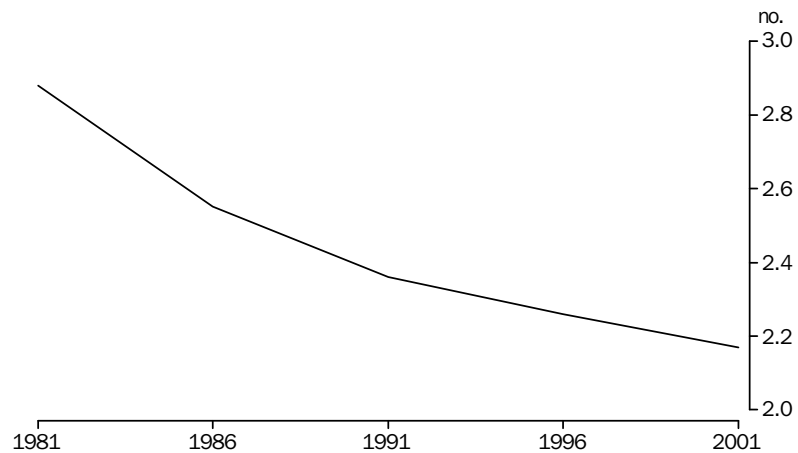
**6.2 AVERAGE ISSUE, Age of women—1981, 1996 and 2001**



**Completed fertility**

Over time there has been a decline in completed fertility. For women aged 40–44 years in 1981 (born in 1937–1941) the completed fertility was 2.8 children compared to 2.2 for women of the same age in 1996 (born in 1952–1956). The 2001 figure (2.3) is higher than that for 1996. This increase is not supported by completed fertility calculated on the basis of births registrations – see graph 6.3. In the graph below, average completed fertility for women aged 40–44 years was calculated from the time series of the yearly age-specific fertility rates based on registered births from 1921 to 2001.<sup>1</sup>

**6.3 AVERAGE ISSUE, Women aged 40–44 years—1981–2001(a)**



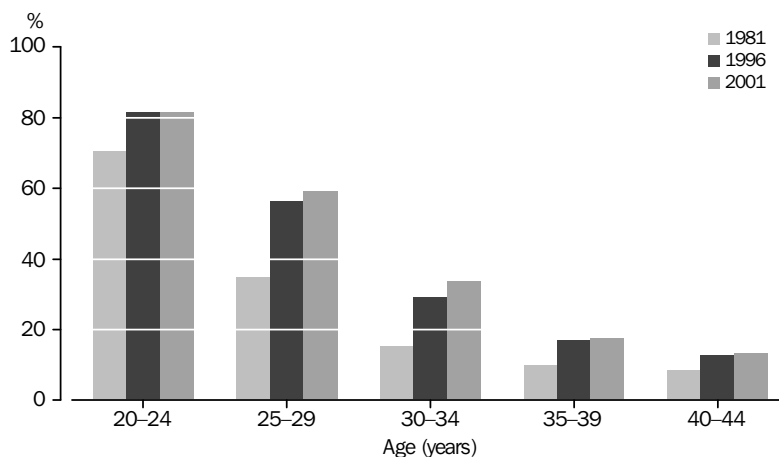
(a) Average issue has been plotted based on accumulated birth registrations rather than from census and survey data.

<sup>1</sup> The two measures of completed fertility from census or survey data and from birth registrations are slightly different. The former measures the completed fertility of women aged 40–44 years in Australia at the time of enumeration. In contrast, completed fertility based on accumulated fertility rates over the past 35 years assumes no fertility differentials of women who have either died or migrated in or out of Australia at ages 15–44 years. However, the effect of differentials in mortality and migration on fertility of women is probably not large enough to affect the trend or comparison of completed fertility.

CHILDLESS WOMEN

The proportion of women remaining childless has increased over time for each age group. For women aged 25–29 years, 35% were childless in 1981, in contrast with 59% of women of the same age remaining childless in 2001. More women aged 35–39 years in 2001 were childless (18%) than women of the same age in 1981 (10%) and 1996 (17%). There seems to be a rising trend in childlessness with age as well as among women who have completed their fertility.

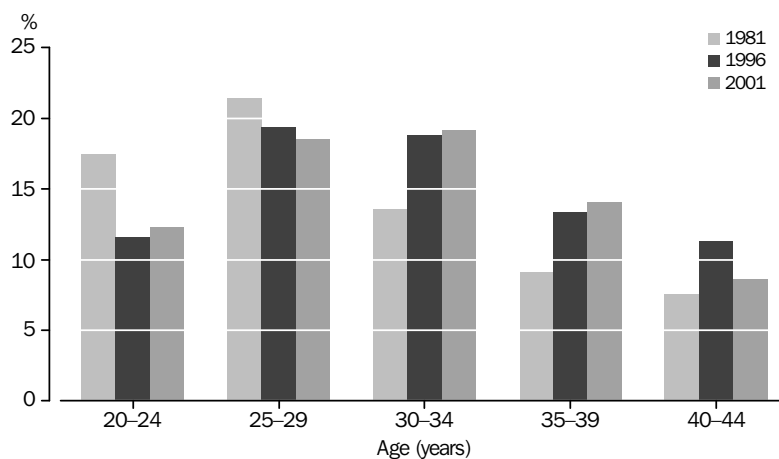
**6.4 CHILDLESSNESS, Age of women—1981, 1996 and 2001**



WOMEN WITH ONE CHILD

A smaller proportion of women aged 20–24 years had one child in 2001 (12%) than in 1981 (17%), whereas more women aged 30–39 years had one child in 2001 (17%) than in 1981 (12%). This pattern suggests a tendency of women to delay having their first child.

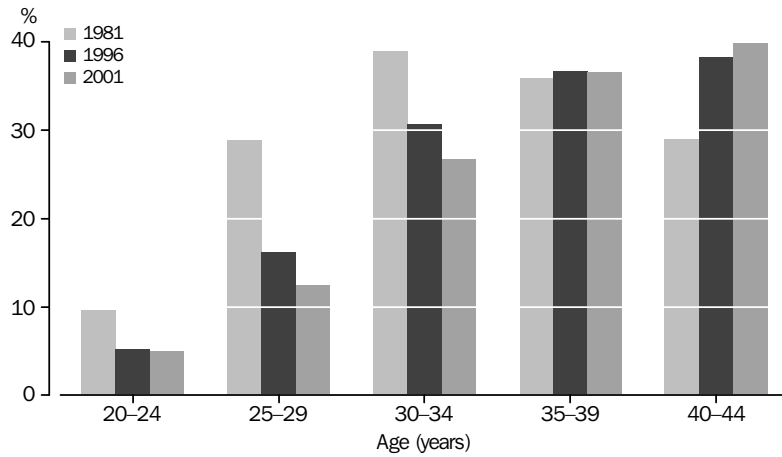
**6.5 WOMEN WITH ONE CHILD, Age of women—1981, 1996 and 2001**



WOMEN WITH TWO CHILDREN

The proportion of women aged 20–44 years with two children declined from 1981 (28%) to 2001 (24%). This was because of the increase in childlessness over this period. However, 40% of women aged 40–44 years had two children in 2001 compared with 29% in 1981, as well as an increase in the proportion of 35–39 year old women with two children. In contrast, the proportions of the younger age groups of women all declined over the period.

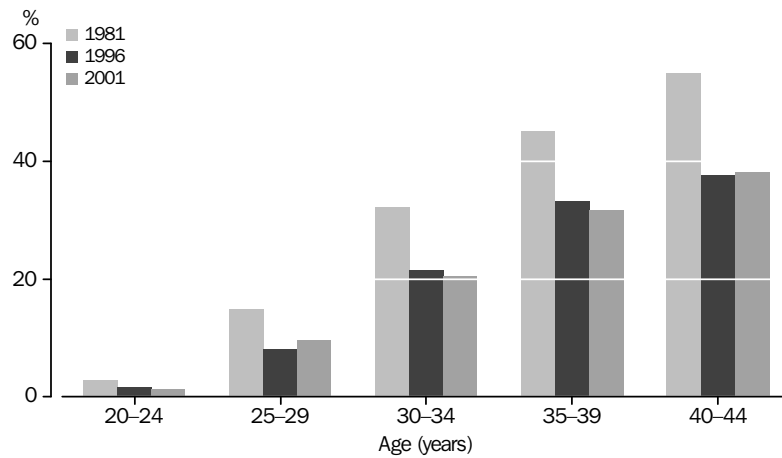
**6.6 WOMEN WITH TWO CHILDREN, Age of women—1981, 1996 and 2001**



LARGER FAMILIES

The proportion of women with three or more children decreased from 1981 to 2001 for all age groups. For 20–24 year old women it remained very low, decreasing from 2.7% in 1981 to 1.4% in 2001. For women aged 40–44 years it declined from over half (55%) in 1981 to 38% in 2001.

**6.7 WOMEN WITH THREE OR MORE CHILDREN, Age of women—1981, 1996 and 2001**



# CHAPTER 7

## FERTILITY TABLES

### 7.1 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a) AND TOTAL FERTILITY RATES(b)

	AGE GROUP (YEARS).....							Total fertility rate
	15-19(c)	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49(d)	
1921	26.6	135.9	169.0	142.5	101.9	43.6	4.3	3.119
1922	26.2	136.4	170.8	141.1	100.9	41.9	3.9	3.106
1923	26.5	133.1	167.1	136.1	95.7	40.2	4.5	3.016
1924	27.9	132.2	164.7	134.2	93.3	38.1	4.0	2.972
1925	29.1	130.8	163.4	131.3	92.8	38.4	4.1	2.950
1926	29.2	127.4	159.4	125.4	88.2	36.2	3.8	2.848
1927	29.9	127.7	156.2	124.1	83.5	34.9	3.6	2.800
1928	30.6	128.5	153.9	120.2	82.8	33.6	3.9	2.768
1929	29.4	122.7	148.2	114.3	76.9	32.0	3.4	2.635
1930	29.3	120.2	144.9	112.2	75.6	30.9	3.1	2.581
1931	27.2	110.8	130.7	104.4	67.9	27.7	3.1	2.359
1932	25.9	101.0	122.2	96.3	63.2	25.8	2.9	2.187
1933	25.6	99.6	123.6	96.0	61.3	24.5	2.6	2.166
1934	24.6	97.9	120.7	93.3	58.4	24.1	2.3	2.107
1935	24.6	99.6	123.2	94.0	57.3	21.9	2.3	2.115
1936	24.9	103.5	127.5	95.5	60.3	21.6	2.2	2.178
1937	24.6	107.1	130.7	97.9	58.6	20.7	2.0	2.208
1938	23.8	108.4	130.9	99.2	56.3	20.2	2.1	2.205
1939	24.3	110.5	133.9	98.3	56.4	19.0	1.9	2.222
1940	23.6	112.5	136.8	100.5	56.6	19.4	1.7	2.256
1941	24.3	121.0	143.5	104.9	57.8	19.6	1.7	2.364
1942	24.0	121.8	143.6	104.2	60.0	19.6	1.7	2.375
1943	24.3	132.5	155.4	114.8	64.5	20.6	1.6	2.569
1944	22.9	126.7	157.3	122.5	72.9	22.1	1.6	2.630
1945	23.8	132.4	164.2	125.2	76.1	23.7	1.8	2.736
1946	26.1	151.1	183.2	131.7	78.3	24.6	2.1	2.986
1947	32.1	166.2	186.6	130.0	75.0	23.5	1.8	3.076
1948	34.2	163.0	179.8	124.6	71.2	22.5	1.7	2.985
1949	35.8	167.4	180.9	121.9	68.4	21.2	1.6	2.986
1950	37.0	173.5	186.0	124.6	68.8	21.8	1.6	3.067
1951	38.6	177.2	185.3	123.1	65.0	21.0	1.6	3.059
1952	39.3	189.7	192.7	126.1	66.1	20.5	1.7	3.181
1953	38.8	194.7	193.2	124.6	65.3	20.5	1.4	3.193
1954	39.2	197.1	194.0	121.8	64.4	20.2	1.5	3.191
1955	41.8	205.4	199.6	122.0	64.4	20.4	1.4	3.275
1956	43.0	210.9	203.0	123.5	64.2	19.7	1.6	3.330
1957	44.0	216.2	210.7	127.2	65.1	19.5	1.4	3.421
1958	44.6	215.9	212.9	126.4	64.3	18.5	1.5	3.421
1959	45.2	219.0	214.4	125.7	63.6	18.6	1.5	3.440
1960	44.3	220.1	216.3	127.5	62.3	18.4	1.3	3.451

(a) Births per 1,000 women.

(c) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(b) Births per woman.

(d) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

7.1 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a) AND TOTAL FERTILITY RATES(b) *continued*

	AGE GROUP (YEARS).....							Total fertility rate
	15-19(c)	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49(d)	
1961	47.4	225.8	221.2	131.1	63.4	19.2	1.4	3.548
1962	44.7	216.0	216.7	127.7	61.4	18.4	1.2	3.431
1963	45.9	208.2	211.2	123.9	59.7	18.6	1.1	3.343
1964	47.0	190.5	198.1	119.1	58.4	16.5	1.2	3.154
1965	47.5	179.3	188.5	110.1	53.0	15.0	1.1	2.973
1966	48.9	173.1	183.9	105.1	50.6	14.2	1.1	2.885
1967	48.4	170.8	185.0	102.8	47.8	13.5	1.1	2.847
1968	48.9	173.6	190.8	103.3	46.7	12.9	1.0	2.886
1969	49.0	174.2	191.8	103.5	45.6	12.2	1.0	2.887
1970	50.9	172.0	189.6	101.8	44.9	11.7	0.8	2.859
1971	55.5	181.9	193.5	101.8	44.2	11.3	0.8	2.945
1972	54.5	168.7	181.7	94.0	38.9	10.0	0.8	2.743
1973	49.1	155.4	166.9	84.2	33.6	8.4	0.6	2.491
1974	44.2	145.4	159.3	78.5	29.1	7.2	0.4	2.321
1975	40.1	133.9	149.6	74.1	26.0	6.1	0.4	2.151
1976	35.2	128.2	146.2	72.5	24.1	5.5	0.4	2.061
1977	32.1	122.0	145.7	74.1	23.9	5.0	0.3	2.016
1978	29.9	115.8	144.0	73.4	23.5	4.5	0.2	1.957
1979	28.5	109.1	142.5	73.9	23.6	4.6	0.3	1.913
1980	27.6	107.0	141.0	75.1	23.7	4.4	0.3	1.896
1981	28.2	107.5	145.2	77.6	24.5	4.5	0.3	1.939
1982	27.4	103.9	144.9	80.6	25.6	4.5	0.3	1.936
1983	26.6	102.7	145.9	81.5	25.0	4.3	0.2	1.931
1984	23.2	94.3	140.4	81.2	25.0	4.3	0.3	1.844
1985	22.8	95.8	146.0	89.0	26.9	4.5	0.2	1.926
1986	21.8	90.0	141.9	88.7	27.2	4.3	0.2	1.871
1987	20.6	85.0	139.6	90.6	28.9	4.8	0.3	1.849
1988	20.3	81.5	136.9	93.3	30.5	4.6	0.2	1.837
1989	20.6	78.4	135.4	96.1	32.6	5.0	0.2	1.842
1990	22.1	79.4	137.9	101.7	34.7	5.5	0.2	1.908
1991	22.1	75.0	132.0	100.2	36.0	5.5	0.2	1.855
1992	22.0	74.9	132.3	104.6	38.3	6.1	0.3	1.893
1993	20.9	71.3	129.8	105.4	38.9	6.3	0.2	1.864
1994	20.7	69.7	125.8	105.0	41.1	6.7	0.3	1.846
1995	20.4	67.1	121.7	106.0	42.3	7.2	0.3	1.825
1996	20.1	65.2	117.1	105.7	43.7	7.5	0.3	1.797
1997	19.5	62.4	113.9	106.7	45.0	7.5	0.3	1.776
1998	18.5	60.2	111.4	107.4	45.7	8.0	0.3	1.758
1999	18.1	58.7	108.5	108.8	47.1	8.5	0.3	1.751
2000	17.4	56.5	107.0	110.5	49.1	8.8	0.4	1.749
2001	17.6	58.0	104.3	107.0	48.7	9.1	0.4	1.726

(a) Births per 1,000 women.

(c) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(b) Births per woman.

(d) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

## 7.2 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a)

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
15–19(b)	17.0	11.4	22.5	14.4	19.4	32.7	70.0	9.8	17.6
20–24	59.7	44.2	68.9	55.4	60.5	86.6	99.9	37.0	58.0
25–29	106.3	94.9	111.3	100.9	105.6	129.4	117.6	95.0	104.3
30–34	107.7	109.8	103.8	106.6	104.2	112.3	103.2	100.4	107.0
35–39	50.6	51.4	44.4	46.4	45.6	44.2	48.6	50.9	48.7
40–44	9.8	9.5	7.6	9.8	8.4	8.0	12.1	8.1	9.1
45–49(c)	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.8	0.7	0.4
<b>Total fertility rate(d)</b>	<b>1.757</b>	<b>1.608</b>	<b>1.795</b>	<b>1.670</b>	<b>1.720</b>	<b>2.066</b>	<b>2.260</b>	<b>1.510</b>	<b>1.726</b>

(a) Births per 1,000 women.

(c) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(b) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(d) Births per woman.

## 7.3 TOTAL FERTILITY RATES(a)

Selected years	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
1981	1.947	1.852	2.056	1.785	1.986	2.070	2.650	1.921	1.939
1986	1.914	1.775	1.911	1.763	1.979	1.928	2.209	1.740	1.871
1991	1.874	1.814	1.877	1.728	1.909	1.906	2.274	1.864	1.855
1996	1.827	1.707	1.851	1.756	1.811	1.890	2.201	1.670	1.797
1997	1.832	1.690	1.803	1.705	1.788	1.787	2.175	1.621	1.776
1998	1.797	1.679	1.794	1.705	1.767	1.811	2.200	1.558	1.758
1999	1.820	1.627	1.769	1.703	1.769	1.869	2.153	1.683	1.751
2000	1.809	1.625	1.784	1.713	1.777	1.792	2.216	1.614	1.749
2001	1.757	1.608	1.795	1.670	1.720	2.066	2.260	1.510	1.726

(a) Births per woman.

## 7.4 CONTRIBUTION OF AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES TO THE TOTAL FERTILITY RATE

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
15–19(a)	4.8	3.5	6.3	4.3	5.6	7.9	15.5	3.2	5.1
20–24	17.0	13.7	19.2	16.6	17.6	21.0	22.1	12.3	16.8
25–29	30.2	29.5	31.0	30.2	30.7	31.3	26.0	31.5	30.2
30–34	30.6	34.1	28.9	31.9	30.3	27.2	22.8	33.3	31.0
35–39	14.4	16.0	12.4	13.9	13.3	10.7	10.7	16.9	14.1
40–44	2.8	3.0	2.1	2.9	2.4	1.9	2.7	2.7	2.6
45–49(b)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total fertility rate(c)</b>	<b>1.757</b>	<b>1.608</b>	<b>1.795</b>	<b>1.670</b>	<b>1.720</b>	<b>2.066</b>	<b>2.260</b>	<b>1.510</b>	<b>1.726</b>

(a) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(c) Births per woman.

(b) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

### 7.5 COMPLETED FERTILITY(a), Year of birth of woman

Year of birth	Average	Proportion based on	Median
	issue	projected births(b)	age (all births)
	no.	%	years
1906	2.283	—	28.0
1911	2.351	—	28.9
1916	2.474	—	28.7
1921	2.642	—	28.0
1926	2.826	—	27.5
1931	3.032	—	26.8
1936	2.956	—	25.7
1941	2.654	—	25.7
1946	2.356	—	25.6
1951	2.318	—	26.1
1956	2.236	—	27.3
1961	2.126	1.6	28.2
1966	2.041	13.5	29.0
1971	1.978	43.5	29.9
1976	1.916	74.8	30.5
1981	1.811	92.6	30.9
1986	1.759	99.8	31.1
1991	1.748	100.0	31.1

(a) Based on age-specific fertility rates derived from birth registrations.

Cohorts which have not yet completed their fertility are assumed to experience a fertility rate dropping to 1.75 over 10 years, with an increasing age of motherhood.

(b) Proportion of the estimated average derived from projected fertility.

### 7.6 NET REPRODUCTION RATE(a)

Selected years	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
1981	0.923	0.890	0.971	0.868	0.938	0.994	1.199	0.938	0.924
1986	0.912	0.849	0.911	0.861	0.945	0.908	1.028	0.834	0.894
1991	0.894	0.866	0.902	0.818	0.919	0.933	1.086	0.897	0.887
1996	0.878	0.815	0.887	0.852	0.864	0.901	1.025	0.808	0.861
1997	0.882	0.810	0.870	0.824	0.854	0.858	1.043	0.794	0.854
1998	0.858	0.799	0.865	0.830	0.852	0.880	1.013	0.763	0.842
1999	0.875	0.782	0.848	0.823	0.855	0.912	1.031	0.829	0.842
2000	0.864	0.780	0.854	0.825	0.861	0.843	1.063	0.781	0.838
2001	0.842	0.775	0.865	0.817	0.827	0.973	1.053	0.735	0.830

(a) Net reproduction rates are based on annual life tables calculated by the ABS.

## 7.7 REGIONAL PATTERNS OF FERTILITY

## EXNUPTIAL BIRTHS....

Statistical Division(d)	Births	Total fertility(a)	SEIFA-Disadvantage(b)	SEIFA-Education/Occupation(b)	Median age of mother(c)	Nuptial births	Paternity-acknowledged	Paternity-not-acknowledged
	no.	rate	index	index	years	%	%	%
<b>New South Wales</b>								
Capital City								
Sydney	55 767	1.722	1 027	1 039	30.5	77.5	19.4	3.1
Balance of State								
Hunter	6 793	1.817	970	963	29.1	62.1	34.0	3.9
Illawarra	4 641	1.866	979	982	29.3	67.6	28.9	3.5
Richmond-Tweed	2 342	1.910	960	965	29.5	54.7	39.9	5.4
Mid-North Coast	2 798	2.009	947	949	28.4	55.8	39.1	5.1
Northern	2 189	2.078	978	975	28.5	60.6	33.9	5.4
North Western	1 647	2.279	952	954	28.6	56.2	39.1	4.7
Central West	2 205	2.052	982	967	28.9	65.9	30.7	3.4
South Eastern	2 164	2.056	1 004	988	29.6	62.4	33.4	4.2
Murrumbidgee	2 055	2.120	989	967	29.0	66.9	29.1	4.0
Murray	1 284	1.971	994	969	29.1	67.1	30.5	2.4
Far West	279	1.923	919	929	27.4	47.7	46.6	5.7
Total	28 397	1.952	973	968	29.0	62.1	33.8	4.2
Total(e)	84 578	1.795	1 007	1 012	30.0	72.3	24.2	3.5
<b>Victoria</b>								
Capital City								
Melbourne	43 452	1.542	1 025	1 028	31.0	76.9	21.0	2.1
Balance of State								
Barwon	2 919	1.766	995	983	30.1	69.5	28.8	1.7
Western Districts	1 197	1.978	1 001	969	29.4	68.8	29.8	1.4
Central Highlands	1 552	1.756	989	985	29.8	68.0	29.2	2.8
Wimmera	588	2.009	1 006	971	29.9	71.4	26.9	1.7
Mallee	1 111	2.168	983	955	29.4	67.5	30.6	1.9
Loddon	1 837	1.865	998	988	29.9	63.8	33.6	2.6
Goulburn	2 319	2.126	992	963	29.6	68.3	29.5	2.2
Ovens-Murray	1 040	1.895	1 007	986	29.7	67.8	29.4	2.8
East Gippsland	810	1.984	985	972	29.2	61.7	35.8	2.5
Gippsland	1 774	1.929	983	969	28.7	62.9	33.9	3.2
Total	15 147	1.911	993	975	29.6	67.0	30.7	2.3
Total(e)	58 626	1.618	1 016	1 013	30.7	74.4	23.5	2.1
<b>Queensland</b>								
Capital City								
Brisbane	22 037	1.686	1 010	1 004	29.8	69.2	26.8	4.0
Balance of State								
Moreton	8 104	1.658	979	964	29.8	63.6	32.4	4.0
Wide Bay-Burnett	2 723	2.015	926	908	27.8	56.3	37.1	6.6
Darling Downs	2 851	2.143	982	955	28.5	66.7	29.3	4.0
South West	446	2.558	960	936	28.3	62.3	33.2	4.5
Fitzroy	2 600	2.032	972	944	28.2	60.1	35.1	4.8
Central West	188	2.089	969	935	28.6	64.4	31.4	4.3
Mackay	1 743	1.899	984	935	28.7	64.1	32.2	3.6
Northern	2 904	1.870	981	959	28.4	60.4	33.6	6.0
Far North	3 296	1.867	978	969	29.0	52.2	40.3	7.5
North West	674	2.475	940	929	27.7	45.8	45.1	9.1
Total	25 529	1.874	971	951	28.9	60.5	34.3	5.2
Total(e)	47 678	1.780	988	975	29.3	64.6	30.8	4.6

(a) Average total fertility rate over 1999, 2000 and 2001.

(b) Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas, 1996 Census of Population and Housing.

(c) Confinements data.

(d) Latest data on 2000 ASGC boundaries.

(e) The difference between the number of births for the state and the total over the Statistical Divisions is mainly due to some events, registered in the state, occurring to overseas usual residents.

(f) Includes Other Territories.



7.7 REGIONAL PATTERNS OF FERTILITY *continued*

## EXNUPTIAL BIRTHS....

Statistical Division(d)	Births	Total fertility(a)	SEIFA-Disadvantage(b)	SEIFA-Education/Occupation(b)	Median age of mother(c)	Nuptial births	Paternity-acknowledged	Paternity-not-acknowledged
	no.	rate	index	index	years	%	%	%
<b>South Australia</b>								
Capital City								
Adelaide	12 460	1.606	991	999	30.5	67.9	29.0	3.1
Balance of State								
Outer Adelaide	1 262	1.942	1 002	967	30.6	70.5	27.6	1.9
Yorke and Lower North	438	2.023	958	926	30.1	68.5	28.5	3.0
Murray Lands	833	2.070	939	904	29.1	60.3	36.1	3.6
South East	813	2.062	977	926	29.5	67.0	30.6	2.3
Eyre	443	2.345	964	945	29.2	60.3	36.3	3.4
Northern	1 021	1.994	926	934	28.3	49.6	44.5	6.0
Total	4 810	2.035	963	936	29.4	62.6	34.1	3.4
Total(e)	17 281	1.699	984	983	30.3	66.4	30.4	3.2
<b>Western Australia</b>								
Capital City								
Perth	17 004	1.647	1 020	1 012	30.2	68.7	27.8	3.5
Balance of State								
South West	2 249	1.959	965	924	29.0	61.0	35.7	3.3
Lower Great Southern	638	2.309	982	948	28.5	59.2	37.6	3.1
Upper Great Southern	298	2.446	1 005	942	29.2	69.5	28.5	2.0
Midlands	702	2.152	980	932	29.3	67.2	31.2	1.6
South Eastern	956	2.140	981	945	29.0	60.3	35.6	4.2
Central	864	2.160	960	940	28.6	51.2	42.8	6.0
Pilbara	734	2.177	995	960	28.8	51.8	43.3	4.9
Kimberley	529	2.050	913	967	28.3	31.4	57.1	11.5
Total	6 970	2.085	970	939	28.8	57.3	38.4	4.3
Total(e)	24 002	1.746	1 006	991	29.8	65.4	30.9	3.7
<b>Tasmania</b>								
Capital City								
Greater Hobart	2 745	1.832	1 001	1 009	29.6	56.8	40.0	3.2
Balance of State								
Southern	454	2.320	942	914	29.3	53.1	43.0	4.0
Northern	1 815	1.883	966	954	28.9	59.6	37.2	3.2
Mersey-Lyell	1 397	1.965	945	926	28.0	56.0	40.5	3.4
Total	3 666	1.953	955	938	28.6	57.4	39.2	3.4
Total(e)	6 430	1.902	974	967	29.1	57.2	39.6	3.3
<b>Northern Territory</b>								
Capital City								
Darwin	1 596	1.918	1 027	1 046	29.5	55.0	36.0	9.0
Balance of State								
Northern Territory - Bal	2 218	2.468	909	969	26.5	23.4	43.1	33.5
Total(e)	3 822	2.219	962	1 004	27.9	36.8	40.0	23.2
<b>Australian Capital Territory</b>								
Capital City								
Canberra	3 884	1.606	1 091	1 121	30.4	73.6	22.6	3.8
Total(e)	3 938	1.622	1 091	1 121	30.4	72.9	22.3	4.8
<b>Australia(f)</b>	<b>246 394</b>	<b>1.740</b>	<b>1 000</b>	<b>1 000</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>69.3</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>3.7</b>

(a) Average total fertility rate over 1999, 2000 and 2001.

(b) Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas, 1996 Census of Population and Housing.

(c) Confinements data.

(d) Latest data on 2000 ASGC boundaries.

(e) The difference between the number of births for the state and the total over the Statistical Divisions is mainly due to some births, registered in the state, occurring to overseas usual residents.

(f) Includes Other Territories.

## 7.8 FERTILITY BY SELECTED COUNTRIES OF BIRTH

## AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATE(a).....

Country of birth of mother(c)	Average	Estimated resident	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–44	45–49	Total
	births(a)	female population(b)	years	years	years	years	years	years	years	fertility
	no.	no.	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate(a)
Argentina	180	3 791	12.6	55.0	91.5	103.0	53.8	11.3	—	1.637
<b>Australia (excl. Norfolk Island)</b>	<b>189 500</b>	<b>3 688 406</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>59.3</b>	<b>106.3</b>	<b>109.8</b>	<b>46.0</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>1.741</b>
Austria	106	2 832	12.7	41.0	109.6	104.9	44.9	11.4	1.2	1.628
Burma (Myanmar)	149	3 664	5.9	34.1	73.6	99.1	53.8	12.4	0.9	1.399
Cambodia	734	9 378	18.4	109.4	162.5	127.3	57.0	14.9	1.8	2.457
Canada	574	10 141	5.3	28.9	73.1	141.2	82.5	17.0	0.5	1.743
Central America	231	4 855	20.7	67.1	98.3	103.4	44.2	8.3	—	1.710
Chile	412	8 441	20.0	67.6	104.9	94.1	45.5	9.3	0.2	1.708
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan Province)	3 336	55 448	1.3	29.6	119.2	126.6	77.9	20.4	1.2	1.900
Cyprus	194	5 835	12.6	61.2	102.1	86.0	37.8	5.3	—	1.525
Denmark	121	2 081	2.9	31.5	94.9	145.8	52.4	14.6	—	1.711
Egypt	350	7 432	5.2	97.4	205.2	124.0	59.3	10.6	0.5	2.511
Fiji	1 028	16 164	12.8	95.2	129.4	112.6	51.4	14.0	0.6	2.080
Former Yugoslav Republics(d)	1 742	50 009	6.9	82.6	123.5	75.6	31.1	4.6	0.2	1.622
France	279	5 466	3.5	30.8	89.1	108.6	58.0	11.6	0.8	1.512
Germany	751	18 334	7.9	38.6	94.4	108.1	58.9	10.4	0.4	1.594
Greece	388	18 009	8.5	39.9	86.4	79.7	35.9	5.7	0.3	1.282
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	495	23 804	0.6	2.4	27.0	86.8	61.4	10.6	—	0.943
India	1 444	29 127	2.6	55.0	121.9	100.2	39.2	7.5	0.3	1.634
Indonesia	995	26 927	4.0	16.6	87.2	108.5	55.1	10.7	0.7	1.414
Iran	256	6 574	2.4	37.7	90.0	87.2	58.6	7.9	1.1	1.424
Ireland	564	14 493	3.0	13.1	39.0	114.1	77.6	11.9	0.1	1.294
Israel	118	2 357	4.4	42.1	96.4	142.5	65.4	15.1	—	1.829
Italy	603	25 499	7.1	32.2	97.5	99.4	43.0	8.5	0.2	1.439
Japan	626	12 204	1.5	8.8	54.7	171.1	96.6	26.7	—	1.797
Korea, Republic of (South)	674	15 474	2.1	10.4	94.9	129.1	48.5	7.7	0.9	1.468
Laos	256	4 286	32.3	88.1	100.9	100.4	51.1	7.7	0.7	1.906
Lebanon	2 386	27 034	63.4	238.6	187.6	131.3	58.2	12.9	0.9	3.464
Malaysia	1 069	39 928	2.1	4.8	40.3	120.7	63.3	11.3	0.6	1.216
Malta	154	8 609	13.9	45.8	107.4	106.8	30.7	4.9	0.3	1.550
Mauritius	206	5 777	6.8	35.3	81.5	100.4	52.1	9.5	0.3	1.429
Netherlands	405	12 689	11.2	31.0	77.8	135.6	60.8	8.5	0.2	1.625
New Zealand	6 639	123 797	31.0	76.9	97.6	96.8	49.2	9.9	0.7	1.811
Papua New Guinea	745	11 799	17.1	47.1	106.9	121.4	55.0	11.8	0.6	1.799
Philippines	2 714	56 364	15.6	68.5	128.7	109.2	53.8	12.4	0.8	1.946
Poland	351	14 468	6.4	27.3	86.8	75.4	33.8	6.0	0.3	1.181
Portugal	189	4 977	9.6	53.9	118.1	91.4	37.9	5.6	—	1.582
Romania	200	4 147	15.5	70.0	109.4	88.2	42.7	9.2	—	1.675
Singapore	407	13 872	1.3	4.6	41.1	146.8	80.9	18.4	0.7	1.469
South Africa	1 088	25 103	4.4	31.5	92.4	113.7	47.7	8.7	0.5	1.495
Spain	141	2 768	12.0	47.2	97.1	126.1	63.2	11.4	0.6	1.789
Sri Lanka	886	17 283	3.7	25.2	128.4	139.2	63.4	11.0	0.5	1.856
Switzerland	157	2 682	6.8	26.0	93.6	150.5	77.2	8.3	1.8	1.822
Thailand	529	11 617	19.1	36.6	68.4	101.7	68.9	13.6	0.6	1.544
Turkey	771	10 777	55.5	174.1	136.3	86.4	43.0	8.3	0.8	2.522

(a) Average over the three years 1999, 2000 and 2001.

(b) 2000 preliminary estimated female resident population aged 15–49 years.

(c) Excludes countries with less than 100 births, on average, over 1999–2001.

(d) Former Yugoslav Republics consists of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republics of Serbia and Montenegro, and Yugoslavia n.f.d.

7.8 FERTILITY BY SELECTED COUNTRIES OF BIRTH *continued*

## AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATE(a).....

Country of birth of mother(c)	Average	Estimated resident	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	Total
	births(a)	female population(b)	years	years	years	years	years	years	years	fertility
	no.	no.	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate(a)
Ukraine	128	2 053	3.5	85.1	148.9	115.6	49.6	9.2	—	2.060
United Kingdom	10 263	256 674	13.1	41.8	82.9	102.9	48.3	9.2	0.4	1.493
Uruguay	159	2 684	16.9	58.2	108.2	111.7	66.5	14.4	0.6	1.882
United States of America	984	18 599	6.2	44.4	90.1	131.4	71.1	17.9	1.4	1.812
Viet Nam	4 613	69 629	15.9	67.8	127.1	121.8	63.5	13.1	0.8	2.050
<i>Total overseas born</i>	58 538	1 225 256	12.7	48.2	101.7	110.7	54.3	10.8	0.5	1.695
<b>Total</b>	<b>248 300</b>	<b>4 913 662</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>105.4</b>	<b>110.2</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.740</b>

(a) Average over the three years 1999, 2000 and 2001.

(b) 2000 preliminary estimated female resident population aged 15-49 years.

(c) Excludes countries with less than 100 births, on average, over 1999-2001.

# CHAPTER 8

## BIRTHS TABLES

### 8.1 BIRTHS, Number registered, state/territory of usual residence

<i>Selected years</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Other Territories</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
MALES										
1981	42 280	30 268	20 136	9 769	11 355	3 674	1 606	2 082	—	<b>121 170</b>
1986	43 458	30 855	20 782	9 930	12 448	3 615	1 711	2 115	—	<b>124 914</b>
1991	44 942	33 636	22 564	10 175	12 959	3 454	1 799	2 436	—	<b>131 965</b>
1996	44 448	31 587	24 533	9 710	12 813	3 346	1 861	2 241	33	<b>130 572</b>
1997	44 647	31 248	24 024	9 383	12 810	3 098	1 812	2 132	25	<b>129 179</b>
1998	43 763	31 303	24 042	9 266	12 655	3 053	1 913	2 006	15	<b>128 016</b>
1999	44 438	30 101	23 919	9 184	12 686	3 056	1 823	2 129	21	<b>127 357</b>
2000	44 705	30 326	24 291	9 164	12 763	2 985	1 862	2 074	20	<b>128 190</b>
2001	43 529	29 943	24 377	8 730	12 329	3 376	1 997	1 995	22	<b>126 298</b>
FEMALES										
1981	39 691	29 016	18 799	9 502	10 545	3 556	1 503	2 060	—	<b>114 672</b>
1986	41 073	29 307	19 589	9 811	11 788	3 335	1 604	1 987	—	<b>118 494</b>
1991	42 425	31 802	21 596	9 465	12 458	3 416	1 800	2 320	—	<b>125 282</b>
1996	42 147	29 556	23 236	9 346	11 980	3 111	1 701	2 155	30	<b>123 262</b>
1997	42 509	29 484	22 941	8 979	11 966	2 909	1 776	2 076	23	<b>122 663</b>
1998	41 736	29 189	23 004	8 960	12 062	2 925	1 728	1 976	20	<b>121 600</b>
1999	42 346	28 774	22 584	8 774	12 163	2 976	1 753	2 124	19	<b>121 513</b>
2000	42 047	28 845	22 987	8 695	12 330	2 707	1 823	1 991	21	<b>121 446</b>
2001	41 049	28 683	23 301	8 551	11 673	3 054	1 825	1 943	17	<b>120 096</b>
PERSONS										
1981	81 971	59 284	38 935	19 271	21 900	7 230	3 109	4 142	—	<b>235 842</b>
1986	84 531	60 162	40 371	19 741	24 236	6 950	3 315	4 102	—	<b>243 408</b>
1991	87 367	65 438	44 160	19 640	25 417	6 870	3 599	4 756	—	<b>257 247</b>
1996	86 595	61 143	47 769	19 056	24 793	6 457	3 562	4 396	63	<b>253 834</b>
1997	87 156	60 732	46 965	18 362	24 776	6 007	3 588	4 208	48	<b>251 842</b>
1998	85 499	60 492	47 046	18 226	24 717	5 978	3 641	3 982	35	<b>249 616</b>
1999	86 784	58 875	46 503	17 958	24 849	6 032	3 576	4 253	40	<b>248 870</b>
2000	86 752	59 171	47 278	17 859	25 093	5 692	3 685	4 065	41	<b>249 636</b>
2001	84 578	58 626	47 678	17 281	24 002	6 430	3 822	3 938	39	<b>246 394</b>

## 8.2 BIRTHS, Nuptiality by state/territory of usual residence

Selected years	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust. (a)
NUPTIAL BIRTHS									
1981	70 994	53 724	32 545	16 768	18 596	6 157	2 081	3 777	<b>204 642</b>
1986	70 202	52 767	32 448	16 290	19 755	5 753	1 671	3 572	<b>202 458</b>
1991	67 940	53 217	32 498	14 877	18 995	4 977	1 686	3 834	<b>198 024</b>
1996	64 595	47 933	32 191	13 328	17 128	4 242	1 504	3 288	<b>184 266</b>
1997	63 918	47 191	31 345	12 928	17 134	3 866	1 522	3 157	<b>181 104</b>
1998	62 751	46 391	31 215	12 689	16 861	3 661	1 517	2 931	<b>178 046</b>
1999	63 188	45 106	30 877	12 362	16 458	3 616	1 432	3 106	<b>176 179</b>
2000	63 797	45 075	31 244	12 045	16 561	3 393	1 450	3 028	<b>176 625</b>
2001	61 131	43 604	30 784	11 475	15 700	3 675	1 405	2 870	<b>170 675</b>
TOTAL EXNUPTIAL BIRTHS									
1981	10 977	5 560	6 390	2 503	3 304	1 073	1 028	365	<b>31 200</b>
1986	14 329	7 395	7 923	3 451	4 481	1 197	1 644	530	<b>40 950</b>
1991	19 427	12 221	11 662	4 763	6 422	1 893	1 913	922	<b>59 223</b>
1996	22 000	13 210	15 578	5 728	7 665	2 215	2 058	1 108	<b>69 568</b>
1997	23 238	13 541	15 620	5 434	7 642	2 141	2 066	1 051	<b>70 738</b>
1998	22 748	14 101	15 831	5 537	7 856	2 317	2 124	1 051	<b>71 570</b>
1999	23 596	13 769	15 626	5 596	8 391	2 416	2 144	1 147	<b>72 691</b>
2000	22 955	14 096	16 034	5 814	8 532	2 299	2 235	1 037	<b>73 011</b>
2001	23 447	15 022	16 894	5 806	8 302	2 755	2 417	1 068	<b>75 719</b>
PATERNITY-ACKNOWLEDGED EXNUPTIAL BIRTHS									
1981	7 038	3 134	3 786	1 543	1 810	562	774	238	<b>18 885</b>
1986	10 723	5 075	5 195	2 509	3 048	823	1 154	366	<b>28 893</b>
1991	15 709	10 043	8 894	3 845	5 094	1 531	1 264	684	<b>47 064</b>
1996	18 545	11 367	13 032	4 960	6 473	1 941	1 292	934	<b>58 549</b>
1997	19 958	11 853	13 145	4 787	6 490	1 876	1 423	916	<b>60 452</b>
1998	19 618	12 972	13 665	4 959	6 745	2 059	1 435	887	<b>62 345</b>
1999	20 722	12 843	13 486	5 026	7 500	2 143	1 439	979	<b>64 144</b>
2000	20 070	13 092	13 937	5 227	7 716	2 050	1 397	899	<b>64 396</b>
2001	20 449	13 781	14 692	5 249	7 407	2 544	1 530	880	<b>66 539</b>
PATERNITY-NOT-ACKNOWLEDGED EXNUPTIAL BIRTHS									
1981	3 939	2 426	2 604	960	1 494	511	254	127	<b>12 315</b>
1986	3 606	2 320	2 728	942	1 433	374	490	164	<b>12 057</b>
1991	3 718	2 178	2 768	918	1 328	362	649	238	<b>12 159</b>
1996	3 455	1 843	2 546	768	1 192	274	766	174	<b>11 019</b>
1997	3 280	1 688	2 475	647	1 152	265	643	135	<b>10 286</b>
1998	3 130	1 129	2 166	578	1 111	258	689	164	<b>9 225</b>
1999	2 874	926	2 140	570	891	273	705	168	<b>8 547</b>
2000	2 885	1 004	2 097	587	816	249	838	138	<b>8 615</b>
2001	2 998	1 241	2 202	557	895	211	887	188	<b>9 180</b>

(a) Australia includes Other Territories.

## 8.3 BIRTHS, Age of parents

Age of parent (years)	MOTHERS.....				FATHERS.....		
	Married	<i>Exnuptial</i> <i>paternity</i> <i>acknowledged</i>	<i>Exnuptial</i> <i>paternity not</i> <i>acknowledged</i>	Total	Married	<i>Exnuptial</i> <i>paternity</i> <i>acknowledged</i>	Total
15 and under	3	246	176	423	—	51	51
16	12	683	273	968	—	165	165
17	46	1 585	443	2 074	—	523	525
18	235	2 514	562	3 311	22	1 088	1 110
19	704	3 542	682	4 928	105	1 791	1 896
20	1 211	3 930	576	5 717	291	2 358	2 649
21	1 906	3 707	585	6 198	584	2 766	3 350
22	2 838	3 988	543	7 369	1 095	2 982	4 077
23	4 020	3 833	478	8 331	1 715	3 247	4 962
24	5 299	3 819	475	9 593	2 680	3 463	6 143
25	7 008	3 663	438	11 109	3 787	3 580	7 367
26	8 831	3 572	379	12 782	5 455	3 631	9 086
27	10 767	3 541	389	14 697	7 165	3 746	10 911
28	12 753	3 445	393	16 591	9 415	3 771	13 186
29	14 719	3 436	377	18 532	11 309	3 783	15 092
30	15 054	3 228	333	18 615	12 829	3 623	16 452
31	14 611	2 724	287	17 622	13 185	3 074	16 259
32	13 755	2 520	256	16 531	13 283	2 919	16 202
33	12 036	2 237	246	14 519	12 410	2 599	15 009
34	10 269	2 013	215	12 497	11 469	2 386	13 855
35	8 744	1 804	185	10 733	10 649	2 048	12 697
36	7 247	1 578	164	8 989	9 795	1 946	11 741
37	5 709	1 333	164	7 206	8 563	1 855	10 418
38	4 392	1 130	121	5 643	7 158	1 557	8 715
39	3 204	852	106	4 162	5 989	1 362	7 351
40	2 108	608	78	2 794	4 929	1 129	6 058
41	1 412	435	47	1 894	3 917	957	4 874
42	868	273	29	1 170	2 858	763	3 621
43	463	150	28	641	2 259	632	2 891
44	230	76	7	313	1 711	548	2 259
45	103	33	4	140	1 321	410	1 731
46	52	18	4	74	1 005	330	1 335
47	30	7	—	37	788	285	1 073
48	10	3	—	13	637	223	860
49	6	—	3	7	445	167	612
50	10	—	—	11	355	150	505
51	—	—	—	—	281	129	410
52	4	—	—	4	260	104	364
53	—	—	—	—	210	87	297
54	—	3	—	3	152	69	221
55–59	—	—	—	—	428	146	574
60 and over	—	—	—	—	142	40	182
Not stated	6	10	136	152	22	56	78
<b>Total</b>	<b>170 675</b>	<b>66 539</b>	<b>9 180</b>	<b>246 394</b>	<b>170 675</b>	<b>66 539</b>	<b>237 214</b>

## 8.4 BIRTHS, Month of birth

YEAR OF REGISTRATION.....						
<i>Month of Birth</i>	1981	1986	1991	1996	2000	2001
January	19 441	19 987	21 572	20 909	21 145	20 228
February	18 531	18 906	19 930	20 381	19 843	19 350
March	20 984	21 097	22 262	21 695	21 843	21 706
April	20 327	20 433	21 796	20 570	20 184	20 299
May	20 633	20 542	22 038	21 598	21 388	20 995
June	19 697	19 706	21 164	20 600	20 479	20 275
July	20 129	20 796	21 895	21 602	20 561	20 867
August	19 969	20 558	21 770	21 538	21 412	21 548
September	20 298	20 769	21 525	21 626	21 362	21 393
October	19 916	21 186	21 940	21 805	21 888	21 263
November	17 384	19 307	19 896	20 444	19 938	19 580
December	18 533	20 121	21 459	21 066	19 593	18 890
<b>Total</b>	<b>235 842</b>	<b>243 408</b>	<b>257 247</b>	<b>253 834</b>	<b>249 636</b>	<b>246 394</b>

# CHAPTER 9

## CONFINEMENTS TABLES .....

### 9.1 CONFINEMENTS, Age of mother .....

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(a)
19 and under	3 707	1 833	2 887	724	1 315	538	507	115	11 626
20–24	12 584	7 055	8 388	2 549	3 824	1 199	772	474	36 850
25–29	25 295	16 693	14 534	4 912	7 060	1 861	1 070	1 193	72 631
30–34	26 442	20 770	13 967	5 649	7 443	1 809	934	1 251	78 279
35–39	12 550	9 505	6 088	2 595	3 327	760	394	635	35 859
40–44	2 411	1 734	1 034	559	602	146	91	98	6 675
45 and over	109	63	42	26	21	—	5	7	274
Not stated	27	5	—	12	5	10	—	87	146
<b>Total</b>	<b>83 125</b>	<b>57 658</b>	<b>46 940</b>	<b>17 026</b>	<b>23 597</b>	<b>6 324</b>	<b>3 773</b>	<b>3 860</b>	<b>242 340</b>

(a) Includes Other Territories.

### 9.2 MEDIAN AGE OF PARENTS AT CONFINEMENT .....

Selected years	FATHERS.....			MOTHERS.....			
	Nuptial	Exnuptial	Total	Nuptial	Exnuptial paternity acknowledged	Exnuptial paternity not acknowledged	Total
1981	29.8	26.0	29.6	27.1	22.9	20.9	26.7
1986	30.6	26.6	30.2	28.0	23.8	22.1	27.5
1991	31.6	27.3	31.0	29.3	24.5	22.6	28.5
1996	32.7	27.9	31.9	30.2	25.3	23.6	29.2
1997	32.8	28.1	32.0	30.4	25.6	23.9	29.4
1998	32.9	28.4	32.0	30.5	25.9	23.9	29.5
1999	33.0	28.5	32.1	30.6	26.1	24.2	29.7
2000	33.1	28.9	32.2	30.8	26.4	24.4	29.8
2001	33.2	29.0	32.3	31.0	26.5	24.4	30.0



### 9.3 CONFINEMENTS, Median age of parents—States and territories

State/Territory	FATHERS.....			MOTHERS.....			Total
	Nuptial	Exnuptial	Total	Nuptial	Exnuptial paternity acknowledged	Exnuptial paternity not acknowledged	
New South Wales	33.2	29.1	32.5	30.8	26.5	24.9	30.0
Victoria	33.4	29.9	32.8	31.3	27.6	26.1	30.7
Queensland	32.6	28.1	31.5	30.6	25.6	23.4	29.3
South Australia	33.4	29.4	32.5	31.4	26.5	24.3	30.3
Western Australia	33.2	28.7	32.1	30.9	26.2	23.5	29.8
Tasmania	32.7	28.5	31.4	30.7	25.2	22.3	29.1
Northern Territory	33.4	28.4	31.2	31.3	25.9	23.9	27.9
Australian Capital Territory	33.0	29.3	32.4	31.0	27.7	27.5	30.4
<b>Australia(a)</b>	<b>33.2</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>30.0</b>

(a) Includes Other Territories.

### 9.4 CONFINEMENTS, Median age of mother—States and territories

Selected years	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(a)
1981	26.8	27.1	26.1	26.4	26.4	25.5	25.6	27.9	26.7
1986	27.6	28.0	27.0	27.2	27.3	26.6	25.7	28.5	27.5
1991	28.6	28.9	28.0	28.3	28.3	27.7	26.7	28.9	28.5
1996	29.3	29.9	28.5	29.4	28.9	28.3	27.1	29.6	29.2
1997	29.4	30.0	28.6	29.7	29.2	28.2	27.0	29.8	29.4
1998	29.5	30.2	28.8	29.8	29.3	28.6	27.4	29.9	29.5
1999	29.6	30.4	28.9	29.9	29.4	28.6	27.5	30.2	29.7
2000	29.8	30.5	29.1	30.1	29.6	28.7	27.7	30.2	29.8
2001	30.0	30.7	29.3	30.3	29.8	29.1	27.9	30.4	30.0

(a) Includes Other Territories.

## 9.5 CONFINEMENTS, Age of parents

Age of parent (years)	MOTHERS.....				FATHERS.....		
	Nuptial	Exnuptial paternity acknowledged	Exnuptial paternity not acknowledged	Total	Nuptial	Exnuptial paternity acknowledged	Total
15 and under	3	245	175	421	—	51	51
16	12	680	271	963	—	163	163
17	46	1 577	437	2 060	—	520	522
18	234	2 496	556	3 286	22	1 080	1 102
19	700	3 520	676	4 896	105	1 783	1 888
20	1 204	3 905	574	5 683	289	2 337	2 626
21	1 889	3 679	582	6 150	582	2 746	3 328
22	2 802	3 948	537	7 287	1 083	2 950	4 033
23	3 975	3 788	471	8 234	1 690	3 226	4 916
24	5 242	3 782	472	9 496	2 648	3 435	6 083
25	6 932	3 618	430	10 980	3 751	3 546	7 297
26	8 706	3 527	373	12 606	5 391	3 588	8 979
27	10 603	3 498	383	14 484	7 088	3 690	10 778
28	12 544	3 403	387	16 334	9 259	3 735	12 994
29	14 477	3 375	375	18 227	11 136	3 743	14 879
30	14 793	3 188	324	18 305	12 634	3 579	16 213
31	14 335	2 679	281	17 295	12 957	3 018	15 975
32	13 489	2 484	254	16 227	13 043	2 868	15 911
33	11 779	2 195	237	14 211	12 172	2 570	14 742
34	10 047	1 984	210	12 241	11 256	2 341	13 597
35	8 509	1 777	181	10 467	10 423	2 021	12 444
36	7 066	1 540	160	8 766	9 572	1 921	11 493
37	5 573	1 313	163	7 049	8 378	1 818	10 196
38	4 286	1 099	119	5 504	7 015	1 532	8 547
39	3 138	831	104	4 073	5 859	1 342	7 201
40	2 063	600	78	2 741	4 825	1 113	5 938
41	1 381	421	47	1 849	3 822	933	4 755
42	858	263	29	1 150	2 796	748	3 544
43	454	147	27	628	2 210	623	2 833
44	225	75	7	307	1 684	533	2 217
45	100	33	4	137	1 289	405	1 694
46	48	18	3	69	979	327	1 306
47	26	7	—	33	762	279	1 041
48	10	3	—	12	620	219	839
49	6	—	—	7	437	164	601
50	8	3	—	9	346	145	491
51	—	—	—	-	269	124	393
52	3	—	—	3	245	104	349
53	—	—	—	-	206	86	292
54	—	—	—	3	150	67	217
55–59	—	—	—	—	385	138	523
60 and over	—	—	—	—	170	44	214
Not stated	6	10	130	146	22	55	77
<b>Total</b>	<b>167 572</b>	<b>65 710</b>	<b>9 058</b>	<b>242 340</b>	<b>167 572</b>	<b>65 710</b>	<b>233 282</b>

## 9.6 NUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS, Age of mother

Age of mother (years)	1981	1986	1991	1996	2000	2001
15 and under	22	6	5	3	3	3
16	234	93	46	17	7	12
17	881	408	251	68	36	46
18	2 312	1 193	710	300	239	234
19	4 287	2 350	1 581	840	704	700
20	6 563	4 017	2 835	1 537	1 224	1 204
21	9 139	5 963	4 255	2 532	2 077	1 889
22	11 794	8 697	5 943	3 841	2 970	2 802
23	14 293	11 278	7 949	5 605	4 263	3 975
24	15 579	14 072	9 847	8 022	5 793	5 242
25	16 915	16 102	12 174	10 121	7 686	6 932
26	17 255	17 561	14 350	11 864	9 443	8 706
27	16 947	17 624	16 195	13 485	11 858	10 603
28	16 067	17 098	17 250	14 390	13 943	12 544
29	14 232	16 034	16 909	14 764	15 218	14 477
30	12 516	14 055	16 489	14 626	15 053	14 793
31	10 303	12 039	14 442	14 329	14 454	14 335
32	8 312	9 892	12 139	13 319	12 971	13 489
33	6 850	8 320	10 494	11 775	11 704	11 779
34	5 666	6 395	8 366	10 074	10 157	10 047
35	3 699	5 052	6 703	8 466	8 783	8 509
36	2 737	3 837	5 124	6 433	7 262	7 066
37	1 945	2 727	3 661	4 884	5 599	5 573
38	1 411	2 035	2 774	3 615	4 271	4 286
39	934	1 389	1 873	2 563	3 000	3 138
40	691	796	1 185	1 647	1 983	2 063
41	428	497	745	1 032	1 273	1 381
42	246	277	432	666	776	858
43	152	150	291	351	412	454
44	69	82	132	190	226	225
45	43	45	53	70	104	100
46	26	20	24	34	41	48
47	10	6	6	13	15	26
48	4	3	3	5	10	10
49	3	—	3	3	5	6
50 and over	—	—	—	8	8	13
Not stated	13	7	20	58	3	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>202 579</b>	<b>200 119</b>	<b>195 258</b>	<b>181 549</b>	<b>173 571</b>	<b>167 572</b>

## 9.7 EXNUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS, Age of mother

Age of mother (years)	1981	1986	1991	1996	2000	2001
15 and under	551	513	440	465	382	420
16	1 261	1 106	1 086	1 065	977	951
17	2 304	2 263	2 358	2 347	2 055	2 014
18	2 937	2 972	3 596	3 215	2 998	3 052
19	3 023	3 326	4 568	4 110	4 013	4 196
20	2 795	3 289	4 653	4 537	4 159	4 479
21	2 448	3 030	4 414	4 546	4 244	4 261
22	2 118	2 930	4 151	4 621	4 203	4 485
23	1 968	2 748	3 756	4 591	4 183	4 259
24	1 702	2 499	3 395	4 589	4 100	4 254
25	1 447	2 360	3 202	4 212	4 135	4 048
26	1 331	1 940	3 002	3 548	3 878	3 900
27	1 208	1 814	2 771	3 414	3 832	3 881
28	1 029	1 580	2 547	3 098	3 731	3 790
29	866	1 402	2 330	2 788	3 552	3 750
30	775	1 318	2 155	2 565	3 042	3 512
31	597	1 066	1 851	2 373	2 906	2 960
32	540	917	1 675	2 277	2 610	2 738
33	441	770	1 382	2 047	2 307	2 432
34	399	645	1 182	1 828	2 025	2 194
35	307	531	949	1 527	1 878	1 958
36	246	408	850	1 282	1 673	1 700
37	167	328	621	1 094	1 441	1 476
38	137	245	532	824	1 170	1 218
39	120	220	363	618	918	935
40	73	129	251	448	640	678
41	70	78	165	321	431	468
42	31	57	129	171	263	292
43	30	36	65	106	158	174
44	8	18	29	47	82	82
45	7	8	13	18	42	37
46	3	5	6	8	10	21
47	3	—	—	—	5	7
48	—	—	3	3	3	-
49	—	—	—	—	3	-
50 and over	—	—	—	3	3	3
Not stated	16	28	114	107	76	140
<b>Total</b>	<b>30 956</b>	<b>40 580</b>	<b>58 603</b>	<b>68 814</b>	<b>72 126</b>	<b>74 768</b>

## 9.8 CONFINEMENTS, Plurality

## MULTIPLE CONFINEMENT.....

Selected years	Single.....		Triplets and Twins higher order		Total.....		Total no.
	no.	%	no.	no.	no.	%	
1981	231 217	99.0	2 278	40	2 318	1.0	233 535
1986	238 011	98.9	2 636	52	2 688	1.1	240 699
1991	250 506	98.7	3 266	89	3 355	1.3	253 861
1996	246 914	98.6	3 345	104	3 449	1.4	250 363
1997	244 689	98.6	3 450	107	3 557	1.4	248 246
1998	242 208	98.5	3 592	98	3 690	1.5	245 898
1999	241 370	98.5	3 630	108	3 738	1.5	245 108
2000	241 795	98.4	3 800	102	3 902	1.6	245 697
2001	238 312	98.3	3 938	90	4 028	1.7	242 340

## 9.9 CONFINEMENTS RESULTING IN A MULTIPLE BIRTH, States and territories

Selected years	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	All mothers
NUMBER									
1981	772	603	390	188	229	75	16	45	2 318
1986	892	717	464	222	228	83	25	57	2 688
1991	1 115	855	597	267	322	93	40	66	3 355
1996	1 110	847	634	300	351	98	42	67	3 449
1997	1 178	916	676	261	367	74	35	48	3 557
1998	1 218	945	678	293	369	88	35	64	3 690
1999	1 288	979	617	288	355	99	46	65	3 738
2000	1 397	939	719	269	396	86	44	52	3 902
2001	1 447	954	727	260	403	109	48	78	4 028
PERCENT									
1981	0.95	1.03	1.01	0.99	1.06	1.05	0.52	1.10	0.99
1986	1.07	1.21	1.16	1.14	0.95	1.21	0.76	1.41	1.12
1991	1.29	1.32	1.37	1.38	1.28	1.37	1.12	1.41	1.32
1996	1.30	1.40	1.35	1.60	1.44	1.54	1.19	1.55	1.38
1997	1.37	1.53	1.46	1.44	1.50	1.25	0.99	1.15	1.43
1998	1.45	1.59	1.46	1.63	1.52	1.49	0.97	1.63	1.50
1999	1.51	1.69	1.34	1.63	1.45	1.67	1.30	1.55	1.53
2000	1.64	1.61	1.54	1.53	1.60	1.53	1.21	1.30	1.59
2001	1.74	1.65	1.55	1.53	1.71	1.72	1.27	2.02	1.66

## 9.10 CONFINEMENTS, Plurality—By marital status

Selected years	SINGLE.....			MULTIPLE.....			TOTAL.....		
	<i>Nuptial</i>	<i>Exnuptial</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Nuptial</i>	<i>Exnuptial</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Nuptial</i>	<i>Exnuptial</i>	<i>Total</i>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	no.
1981	85.9	13.1	99.0	0.9	0.1	1.0	86.7	13.3	233 535
1986	82.2	16.7	98.9	1.0	0.2	1.1	83.1	16.9	240 699
1991	75.8	22.8	98.7	1.1	0.2	1.3	76.9	23.1	253 861
1996	71.4	27.2	98.6	1.1	0.3	1.4	72.5	27.5	250 363
1997	70.7	27.9	98.6	1.1	0.3	1.4	71.8	28.2	248 246
1998	70.1	28.4	98.5	1.2	0.3	1.5	71.2	28.8	245 898
1999	69.5	29.0	98.5	1.2	0.3	1.5	70.7	29.3	245 108
2000	69.4	29.0	98.4	1.2	0.4	1.6	70.6	29.4	245 697
2001	67.9	30.5	98.3	1.3	0.4	1.7	69.1	30.9	242 340

## 9.11 NUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS, Previous children—Duration of marriage

Duration of marriage (years)	PREVIOUS CHILDREN OF THE CURRENT MARRIAGE.....						
	<i>None</i>	<i>One</i>	<i>Two</i>	<i>Three</i>	<i>Four</i>	<i>Five or more</i>	<i>Total</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Under 1	12 248	2 134	338	84	14	8	14 826
1	16 884	3 761	614	94	17	11	21 381
2	12 018	6 907	845	157	30	14	19 971
3	8 789	9 264	1 416	205	52	18	19 744
4	6 098	8 995	2 037	271	46	15	17 462
5	4 485	7 829	2 743	431	61	20	15 569
6	3 135	6 259	3 072	616	75	23	13 180
7	2 182	4 691	2 966	731	123	29	10 722
8	1 549	3 499	2 611	802	173	58	8 692
9	1 055	2 432	2 162	753	196	79	6 677
10 and over	2 418	5 305	5 981	3 115	1 323	1 206	19 348
<b>Total</b>	<b>70 861</b>	<b>61 076</b>	<b>24 785</b>	<b>7 259</b>	<b>2 110</b>	<b>1 481</b>	<b>167 572</b>

**9.12 NUPTIAL FIRST CONFINEMENTS(a), Duration of current marriage**

## DURATION OF CURRENT MARRIAGE (YEARS).....

Selected years	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5-9</i>	<i>10 and over</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>Median duration</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	years
1981	19 190	17 987	13 035	9 777	7 513	13 773	1 127	82 476	2.3
1986	17 343	18 283	13 590	9 923	7 174	12 231	2 014	80 563	2.3
1991	17 190	18 602	13 488	9 771	6 800	13 167	2 154	81 179	2.4
1996	13 138	17 004	12 681	9 242	6 866	12 811	2 131	73 873	2.5
1997	12 805	16 919	12 573	9 257	6 646	12 902	2 254	73 356	2.6
1998	12 530	16 504	12 302	9 193	6 687	12 908	2 152	72 276	2.6
1999	13 067	16 578	12 293	9 199	6 702	12 773	2 216	72 828	2.6
2000	13 385	17 314	12 705	9 039	6 806	12 998	2 401	74 648	2.5
2001	12 248	16 884	12 018	8 789	6 098	12 406	2 418	70 861	2.5

(a) Excludes confinements to relationships with exnuptial births.

(b) Includes marriage duration not stated.

**9.13 NUPTIAL FIRST CONFINEMENTS(a), Age of mother**

## AGE OF MOTHER (YEARS).....

Selected years	<i>19 and under</i>	<i>20-24</i>	<i>25-29</i>	<i>30-34</i>	<i>35-39</i>	<i>40 and over</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>Median age</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	years
1981	6 305	32 917	30 608	10 156	2 168	318	82 476	25.3
1986	3 233	25 220	34 255	13 619	3 766	469	80 563	26.5
1991	2 097	19 005	34 827	19 076	5 334	834	81 179	27.8
1996	989	12 815	30 890	21 090	6 896	1 171	73 873	28.7
1997	970	11 483	30 663	21 720	7 296	1 211	73 356	29.0
1998	893	10 645	30 275	21 600	7 577	1 284	72 276	29.1
1999	866	10 139	29 872	22 577	7 956	1 413	72 828	29.3
2000	804	9 912	29 843	24 090	8 484	1 514	74 648	29.5
2001	818	8 949	26 869	24 153	8 467	1 602	70 861	29.8

(a) Excludes confinements to relationships with exnuptial births.

(b) Includes confinements where the age of mother is not stated.

## 9.14 COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF MOTHER, Summary

Country of birth of mother	FATHER BORN IN(a).....							Total fertility(b)	Median age of mothers
	Total confinements	Australia	Same country as mother	Other country	Nuptial mothers	Exnuptial paternity acknowledged	Exnuptial paternity not acknowledged		
no.	%	%	%	%	%	%	rate	years	
<b>Oceania and Antarctica</b>									
Australia (excl. Norfolk Island)	185 447	86.3	..	13.7	66.2	29.9	3.9	1.741	29.6
Fiji	1 052	19.1	66.8	14.2	85.8	11.4	2.8	2.080	29.5
New Zealand	6 622	53.7	30.6	15.7	54.2	40.5	5.3	1.811	29.8
Papua New Guinea	722	71.3	8.9	19.8	70.4	26.0	3.6	1.799	30.0
Other	1 367	14.0	68.5	17.5	67.4	25.7	6.8	3.109	30.9
<i>Total</i>	195 210	84.3	1.9	13.8	66.0	30.1	3.9	1.749	29.6
<b>North-West Europe</b>									
Austria	101	61.9	9.3	28.9	80.2	15.8	4.0	1.628	32.2
Denmark	114	65.5	19.1	15.5	78.1	18.4	3.5	1.711	32.6
France	253	57.7	15.4	26.8	76.3	20.9	2.8	1.512	32.7
Germany	726	64.4	12.3	23.4	76.0	21.8	2.2	1.594	33.1
Ireland	546	50.0	24.7	25.3	82.1	16.7	1.3	1.294	33.8
Netherlands	413	69.9	10.8	19.4	78.0	20.8	1.2	1.625	32.7
Switzerland	158	61.9	16.8	21.3	75.9	22.2	1.9	1.822	33.6
United Kingdom	9 399	65.1	23.2	11.7	73.8	24.2	2.0	1.493	33.2
Other	300	62.0	12.5	25.4	74.0	24.3	1.7	n.a.	33.2
<i>Total</i>	12 010	64.2	21.5	14.3	74.6	23.4	2.0	n.a.	33.2
<b>Southern and Eastern Europe</b>									
Bosnia and Herzegovina	412	8.6	72.5	18.9	88.6	10.4	1.0	n.a.	29.9
Croatia	407	38.2	36.7	25.1	89.2	9.8	1.0	n.a.	32.5
Cyprus	172	50.0	30.8	18.6	94.2	5.2	1.7	1.525	32.5
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)	444	34.2	53.8	12.1	91.7	7.2	1.1	n.a.	29.9
Greece	350	65.1	22.5	12.4	92.0	7.1	0.9	1.282	33.9
Hungary	70	37.3	37.3	26.9	84.3	12.9	4.3	n.p.	31.8
Italy	530	67.6	17.1	15.4	88.3	10.2	1.5	1.439	35.0
Malta	125	68.0	12.0	19.2	89.6	10.4	—	1.550	31.5
Poland	340	44.7	40.2	15.0	78.8	19.1	2.1	1.181	30.1
Portugal	158	34.8	37.4	29.0	82.3	17.1	—	1.582	31.2
Romania	197	16.6	68.9	14.5	85.8	12.2	2.0	1.675	30.3
Russian Federation	180	33.3	33.3	32.2	91.1	7.8	—	n.a.	30.0
Spain	141	62.4	5.7	31.9	82.3	17.7	—	1.789	32.3
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	393	37.7	37.4	24.9	86.0	12.0	2.0	n.a.	31.6
Other	432	31.1	34.9	34.0	84.5	14.4	1.2	n.a.	30.0
<i>Total</i>	4 351	41.3	37.9	20.8	87.5	11.2	1.2	n.a.	31.8
<b>North Africa and the Middle East</b>									
Egypt	328	14.6	36.4	28.0	96.3	3.7	—	2.511	31.5
Iran	256	13.4	71.9	7.5	94.5	5.1	1.2	1.424	32.3
Israel	118	33.9	43.5	46.9	91.5	6.8	2.5	1.829	32.4
Lebanon	2 228	20.6	76.7	7.2	94.0	5.3	0.6	3.464	29.0
Syria	239	9.6	78.0	16.2	93.7	6.3	—	n.a.	29.3
Turkey	711	16.1	72.4	12.6	92.7	6.9	0.4	2.522	29.1
Other	1 450	5.8	73.4	20.5	94.1	5.5	0.4	n.a.	28.7
<i>Total</i>	5 330	15.1	49.0	23.9	94.0	5.6	0.5	2.871	29.4

(a) Paternity-acknowledged confinements only. Calculation excludes confinements where father's country of birth was not stated. (b) Average total fertility rate over 1999, 2000 and 2001.



9.14 COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF MOTHER, Summary *continued*

Country of birth of mother	FATHER BORN IN(a).....								Median age of mothers
	Total confinements	Same country as mother			Nuptial mothers	Exnuptial paternity acknowledged	Exnuptial paternity not acknowledged	Total fertility(b)	
	no.	Australia %	%	Other country %	%	%	%	rate	
<b>South-East Asia</b>									
Cambodia	735	6.0	73.4	20.5	69.7	20.4	9.9	2.457	29.4
Indonesia	901	27.1	49.0	23.9	91.7	7.4	0.9	1.414	30.0
Laos	244	9.9	60.8	29.3	61.5	29.5	9.0	1.906	29.7
Malaysia	980	37.8	31.3	30.9	89.4	9.7	0.9	1.216	32.7
Philippines	2 672	38.0	43.2	18.9	79.4	17.9	2.7	1.946	31.6
Singapore	440	44.6	16.4	39.0	87.7	10.7	1.6	1.469	31.5
Thailand	593	47.8	21.7	30.5	66.3	30.0	3.7	1.544	30.2
Viet Nam	4 468	4.2	86.3	9.5	71.7	18.0	10.3	2.050	30.0
Other	386	16.6	59.5	23.9	88.6	9.8	1.6	3.390	31.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>11 419</i>	<i>21.9</i>	<i>59.3</i>	<i>18.8</i>	<i>77.2</i>	<i>16.9</i>	<i>6.0</i>	<i>1.690</i>	<i>30.7</i>
<b>North-East Asia</b>									
China (excl. SARs & Taiwan Province)	3 032	6.4	79.5	14.1	87.7	10.5	1.9	1.881	33.1
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	463	18.4	47.3	34.4	91.1	7.6	1.3	0.943	33.6
Japan	684	48.5	23.8	27.8	93.4	6.1	0.4	1.797	32.3
Korea, Republic of (South)	677	10.5	79.2	10.0	94.8	4.9	0.4	1.468	30.6
Other	249	14.3	46.5	39.2	94.4	4.8	—	1.484	31.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>5 105</i>	<i>14.1</i>	<i>67.4</i>	<i>18.5</i>	<i>90.0</i>	<i>8.6</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>1.551</i>	<i>32.6</i>
<b>Southern and Central Asia</b>									
India	1 400	11.9	75.2	12.9	95.5	3.9	0.6	1.634	30.7
Pakistan	387	3.1	89.1	7.5	97.4	2.3	—	n.a.	29.1
Sri Lanka	836	9.9	81.2	8.9	96.5	3.5	—	1.856	32.3
Other	624	4.4	86.0	9.7	93.4	5.9	0.6	n.a.	28.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>3 247</i>	<i>8.9</i>	<i>80.5</i>	<i>10.6</i>	<i>95.6</i>	<i>4.0</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>1.917</i>	<i>30.6</i>
<b>Americas</b>									
Argentina	174	46.2	24.6	29.2	81.6	16.7	1.7	1.637	30.9
Canada	580	68.8	9.9	21.3	84.3	14.7	1.0	1.743	32.3
Caribbean	64	57.8	7.8	32.8	87.5	10.9	—	n.p.	33.1
Central America	222	27.8	41.5	30.7	75.2	20.3	4.5	1.710	28.9
Chile	388	34.7	37.9	27.4	70.6	25.3	4.1	1.708	30.3
United States of America	960	66.2	15.8	18.0	86.0	12.3	1.7	1.812	32.6
Uruguay	163	40.3	25.8	34.0	77.9	19.6	2.5	1.882	31.7
Other	330	37.8	30.8	31.4	80.9	17.6	1.5	1.822	32.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>2 881</i>	<i>53.6</i>	<i>22.1</i>	<i>24.3</i>	<i>81.5</i>	<i>16.4</i>	<i>2.1</i>	<i>1.769</i>	<i>31.9</i>
<b>Sub-Saharan Africa</b>									
Kenya	81	45.7	24.7	28.4	79.0	19.8	—	n.a.	33.1
Mauritius	193	38.6	35.4	25.9	82.9	15.0	2.1	1.429	33.3
South Africa	1 172	39.6	42.4	18.0	88.7	10.1	1.2	1.495	31.4
Zimbabwe	215	53.6	14.2	32.2	83.3	14.9	1.9	n.a.	30.9
Other	891	16.7	63.0	20.2	75.2	21.3	3.5	n.a.	30.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>2 552</i>	<i>33.0</i>	<i>46.0</i>	<i>20.9</i>	<i>82.8</i>	<i>15.1</i>	<i>2.1</i>	<i>1.720</i>	<i>31.4</i>
Other and not stated	235	100.0	—	—	18.7	9.8	71.5	..	28.3
<i>Total Overseas-born</i>	<i>56 658</i>	<i>36.5</i>	<i>46.7</i>	<i>16.8</i>	<i>78.8</i>	<i>18.2</i>	<i>3.0</i>	<i>1.695</i>	<i>31.4</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>242 340</b>	<b>74.6</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>69.1</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>1.740</b>	<b>30.0</b>

(a) Paternity-acknowledged confinements only. Calculation excludes confinements where father's country of birth was not stated. (b) Average total fertility rate over 1999, 2000 and 2001.

## 9.15 COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF FATHER(a), Summary

Country of birth of father	MOTHER BORN IN(b).....						Total paternity(c)	Median age of fathers
	Total confinements	Australia	Same country as father	Other country	Nuptial fathers	Exnuptial paternity acknowledged		
	no.	%	%	%	%	%	rate	years
<b>Oceania and Antarctica</b>								
Australia (excl. Norfolk Island)	173 808	88.5	—	11.5	69.0	31.0	1.636	31.6
Fiji	1 010	21.1	67.6	11.3	83.7	16.3	2.452	32.3
New Zealand	6 816	58.6	28.2	13.2	59.0	41.0	1.704	32.2
Papua New Guinea	659	74.3	9.4	16.3	69.5	30.5	1.888	32.0
Other	1 657	26.4	52.7	20.9	65.8	34.2	3.890	32.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>183 950</i>	<i>86.4</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>11.7</i>	<i>68.7</i>	<i>31.3</i>	<i>1.649</i>	<i>31.7</i>
<b>North-West Europe</b>								
Austria	107	68.2	8.4	23.4	72.0	28.0	1.521	36.4
Denmark	125	61.3	16.9	21.8	76.0	24.0	1.623	34.4
France	332	59.3	11.4	29.2	75.6	24.4	1.493	34.4
Germany	724	59.6	12.0	28.4	78.3	21.7	1.382	35.3
Ireland	680	57.5	19.6	22.9	77.4	22.6	1.435	34.7
Netherlands	478	67.4	9.2	23.4	81.0	19.0	1.468	35.5
Switzerland	171	56.7	15.2	28.1	84.8	15.2	1.608	35.4
United Kingdom	11 825	69.0	18.1	12.9	77.2	22.8	1.449	35.4
Other	249	61.0	14.9	24.1	80.7	19.3	n.a.	35.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>14 691</i>	<i>67.4</i>	<i>17.3</i>	<i>15.3</i>	<i>77.4</i>	<i>22.6</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>35.3</i>
<b>Southern and Eastern Europe</b>								
Bosnia and Herzegovina	466	16.5	63.5	20.0	89.5	10.5	n.a.	33.6
Croatia	501	47.7	29.5	22.8	88.6	11.4	n.a.	35.3
Cyprus	234	58.5	22.6	18.8	90.6	9.4	1.593	33.9
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)	562	48.4	42.0	9.6	90.7	9.3	n.a.	33.2
Greece	621	77.3	12.6	10.1	88.7	11.3	1.424	36.2
Hungary	93	46.2	26.9	26.9	78.5	21.5	1.220	36.1
Italy	921	76.2	9.7	14.1	84.4	15.6	1.543	36.6
Malta	206	81.1	7.3	11.7	84.0	16.0	1.437	37.0
Poland	298	35.6	45.0	19.5	83.9	16.1	1.088	35.0
Portugal	205	47.8	28.3	23.9	81.0	19.0	1.736	34.8
Romania	201	21.0	66.5	12.5	83.6	16.4	1.700	33.8
Russian Federation	116	15.5	51.7	32.8	84.5	15.5	n.a.	33.5
Spain	129	65.9	6.2	27.9	76.0	24.0	1.545	34.1
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	455	42.6	31.6	25.7	85.3	14.7	n.a.	34.5
Other	372	30.4	40.1	29.6	82.0	18.0	n.a.	33.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>5 380</i>	<i>51.6</i>	<i>30.2</i>	<i>18.2</i>	<i>86.1</i>	<i>13.9</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>34.9</i>
<b>North Africa and the Middle East</b>								
Egypt	466	31.1	51.9	17.0	93.3	6.7	2.481	37.2
Iran	320	17.5	58.4	24.1	91.3	8.8	1.376	36.3
Israel	160	49.4	26.9	23.8	87.5	12.5	2.049	34.8
Lebanon	3 104	41.5	51.3	7.2	93.0	7.0	3.741	33.0
Syria	265	31.3	39.2	29.4	92.5	7.5	n.a.	34.7
Turkey	878	28.6	61.8	9.6	89.0	11.0	2.521	32.8
Other	1 624	12.4	69.3	18.3	92.4	7.6	n.a.	34.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>6 817</i>	<i>30.9</i>	<i>56.3</i>	<i>12.9</i>	<i>92.1</i>	<i>7.9</i>	<i>2.953</i>	<i>33.9</i>

(a) Paternity-acknowledged confinements only.

(b) Calculation excludes confinements where mother's country of birth was not stated.

(c) Average total paternity rate over 1999, 2000 and 2001. The total paternity rate is calculated in the same way as the total fertility rate, births summed over five-year age groups 15–19 to 45 and over. Because paternity was not acknowledged in 5% of births, the actual paternity rate is, on average, 5% higher than the figures given in this table.

9.15 COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF FATHER(a), Summary *continued*

Country of birth of father	MOTHER BORN IN(b).....				Nuptial fathers	Exnuptial paternity acknowledged	Total paternity(c)	Median age of fathers
	Total confinements	Australia	Same country as father	Other country				
	no.	%	%	%	%	%	rate	years
<b>South-East Asia</b>								
Cambodia	665	2.4	73.2	24.4	77.7	22.3	2.333	33.4
Indonesia	649	20.2	67.5	12.3	91.2	8.8	1.368	33.4
Laos	250	6.8	54.0	39.2	66.0	34.0	1.679	33.9
Malaysia	894	32.5	34.1	33.4	89.5	10.5	1.357	34.8
Philippines	1 423	15.5	78.8	5.6	79.3	20.7	1.631	32.8
Singapore	341	43.7	20.8	35.5	84.8	15.2	1.636	33.8
Thailand	205	21.5	60.5	18.0	57.6	42.4	1.202	31.3
Viet Nam	3 918	3.2	88.4	8.4	78.9	21.1	1.830	33.9
Other	405	17.3	55.9	26.7	85.9	14.1	2.917	35.0
<i>Total</i>	8 750	12.1	72.8	15.0	80.6	19.4	1.113	33.8
<b>North-East Asia</b>								
China (excl. SARs & Taiwan Province)	2 696	2.0	87.7	10.3	89.5	10.5	1.748	37.0
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	486	15.0	44.4	40.5	90.5	9.5	1.321	36.3
Japan	253	25.3	64.0	10.7	94.9	5.1	1.005	35.1
Korea, Republic of (South)	582	2.4	92.1	5.5	96.9	3.1	1.366	32.2
Other	172	4.7	66.7	28.7	97.1	2.9	2.144	33.3
<i>Total</i>	4 189	5.1	81.0	13.9	91.3	8.7	1.550	36.2
<b>Southern and Central Asia</b>								
India	1 513	17.1	69.1	13.8	95.1	4.9	1.299	34.4
Pakistan	492	11.8	70.1	18.1	95.5	4.5	n.a.	35.4
Sri Lanka	932	15.9	72.9	11.3	94.7	5.3	1.762	36.3
Other	647	7.9	82.4	9.7	91.5	8.5	n.a.	35.0
<i>Total</i>	3 584	14.4	72.6	13.0	94.4	5.6	1.606	35.2
<b>Americas</b>								
Argentina	167	51.5	25.1	23.4	76.0	24.0	1.593	32.7
Canada	537	70.9	10.6	18.4	82.1	17.9	1.688	34.3
Caribbean	73	58.9	6.8	34.2	74.0	26.0	n.p.	35.4
Central America	244	36.9	36.1	27.0	65.2	34.8	1.893	30.6
Chile	434	42.4	32.5	25.1	71.7	28.3	1.750	32.2
United States of America	1 074	64.6	13.9	21.5	83.8	16.2	1.633	34.5
Uruguay	162	50.0	25.3	24.7	75.3	24.7	1.971	32.8
Other	327	39.1	30.6	30.3	77.7	22.3	1.724	34.7
<i>Total</i>	3 018	55.9	20.6	23.5	78.5	21.5	1.703	33.6
<b>Sub-Saharan Africa</b>								
Kenya	137	51.8	14.6	33.6	83.9	16.1	n.a.	36.1
Mauritius	220	45.0	30.5	24.5	85.0	15.0	1.541	36.7
South Africa	1 204	42.2	40.8	17.0	86.3	13.7	1.550	33.1
Zimbabwe	221	57.9	13.6	28.5	79.2	20.8	n.a.	33.6
Other	1 001	24.8	54.2	21.0	76.7	23.3	n.a.	35.3
<i>Total</i>	2 783	37.9	41.3	20.8	82.1	17.9	1.791	34.3
Other and not stated	120	100.0	—	—	53.3	46.7	..	31.1
<i>Total Overseas-born</i>	59 354	41.2	43.3	15.5	80.2	19.8	1.658	34.4
<b>Total paternity acknowledged</b>	<b>233 282</b>	<b>76.4</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>71.8</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>1.656</b>	<b>32.3</b>

(a) Paternity-acknowledged confinements only.

(b) Calculation excludes confinements where mother's country of birth was not stated.

(c) Average total paternity rate over 1999, 2000 and 2001. The total paternity rate is calculated in the same way as the total fertility rate, births summed over five-year age groups 15–19 to 45 and over. Because paternity was not acknowledged in 5% of births, the actual paternity rate is, on average, 5% higher than the figures given in this table.

**ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT  
ISLANDER TABLES** .....**10.1 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—Australia(a)**  
.....

	<i>All Indigenous births</i>	<i>Births to Indigenous mothers</i>	<i>All births</i>
<i>Total births (no.)</i>	11 405	8 334	246 394
Nuptial births (%)	18.8	14.3	69.3
Exnuptial births (%)	81.2	85.7	30.7
Paternity-acknowledged (%)	65.0	63.5	27.0
Paternity-not-acknowledged (%)	16.2	22.2	3.7
Both parents Indigenous (%)	30.7	..	..
Mother only(b) (%)	42.3	..	..
Father only(c) (%)	26.9	..	..
Age of mother			
19 and under (no.)	2 251	1 755	11 704
20–24 (no.)	3 434	2 513	37 208
25–29 (no.)	3 006	2 159	73 711
30–34 (no.)	1 883	1 335	79 784
35–39 (no.)	695	483	36 733
40–44 (no.)	126	82	6 812
45 and over (no.)	3	—	290
Not stated (no.)	7	6	152
Age-specific fertility rates(d)			
15–19	..	75.9	17.6
20–24	..	133.3	58.0
25–29	..	111.3	104.3
30–34	..	72.3	107.0
35–39	..	29.9	48.7
40–44	..	6.2	9.1
45–49	..	0.1	0.4
<i>Total fertility rate(d)</i>	..	2.145	1.726
<i>Total confinements (no.)</i>	11 269	8 231	242 340
Median age of mother (years)	25.0	24.8	30.0
Median age of father (years)	27.9	27.8	32.3

(a) 2001 coverage of Indigenous births in Australia has been estimated at 111% on 1991 Census-based projections and 95% on 1996 Census-based projections. Table 10.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated (9%).

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the preliminary 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 Census.

**10.2 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—New South Wales(a)**

	<i>All Indigenous births</i>	<i>Births to Indigenous mothers</i>	<i>All births</i>
<i>Total births (no.)</i>	3 112	2 009	84 578
Nuptial births (%)	23.6	19.2	72.3
Exnuptial births (%)	76.4	80.8	27.7
Paternity-acknowledged (%)	66.7	65.8	24.2
Paternity-not-acknowledged (%)	9.7	15.0	3.5
Both parents Indigenous (%)	20.2	..	..
Mother only(b) (%)	44.3	..	..
Father only(c) (%)	35.4	..	..
Age of mother			
19 and under (no.)	575	391	3 727
20–24 (no.)	940	617	12 712
25–29 (no.)	794	491	25 673
30–34 (no.)	543	348	26 980
35–39 (no.)	214	134	12 878
40–44 (no.)	41	25	2 463
45 and over (no.)	3	3	116
Not stated (no.)	3	3	29
Age-specific fertility rates(d)			
15–19	..	58.9	17.0
20–24	..	125.0	59.7
25–29	..	91.4	106.3
30–34	..	66.9	107.7
35–39	..	28.4	50.6
40–44	..	6.3	9.8
45–49	..	0.3	0.5
<i>Total fertility rate(d)</i>	..	1.886	1.757
<i>Total confinements (no.)</i>	3 071	1 978	83 125
Median age of mother (years)	25.2	25.0	30.0
Median age of father (years)	28.0	27.9	32.5

(a) 2001 coverage of Indigenous births in New South Wales has been estimated at 120% on 1991 Census-based projections and 88% on 1996 Census-based projections. Table 10.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated (32%).

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the preliminary 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 Census.

## 10.3 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—Victoria(a)

	All Indigenous births	Births to Indigenous mothers	All births
<i>Total births (no.)</i>	522	302	58 626
Nuptial births (%)	24.9	21.5	74.4
Exnuptial births (%)	75.1	78.5	25.6
Paternity-acknowledged (%)	70.3	70.2	23.5
Paternity-not-acknowledged (%)	4.8	8.3	2.1
Both parents Indigenous (%)	15.9	..	..
Mother only(b) (%)	42.0	..	..
Father only(c) (%)	42.1	..	..
Age of mother			
19 and under (no.)	86	50	1 849
20–24 (no.)	143	83	7 121
25–29 (no.)	159	95	16 929
30–34 (no.)	93	59	21 162
35–39 (no.)	37	13	9 733
40–44 (no.)	4	—	1 761
45 and over (no.)	—	—	66
Not stated (no.)	—	—	5
Age-specific fertility rates(d)			
15–19	..	36.3	11.4
20–24	..	74.7	44.2
25–29	..	82.6	94.9
30–34	..	52.6	109.8
35–39	..	13.6	51.4
40–44	..	2.5	9.5
45–49	..	—	0.4
<i>Total fertility rate(d)</i>	..	1.312	1.608
<i>Total confinements (no.)</i>	518	300	57 658
Median age of mother (years)	25.9	25.8	30.7
Median age of father (years)	28.6	28.5	32.8

(a) 2001 coverage of Indigenous births in Victoria has been estimated at 78% on 1991 Census-based projections and 77% on 1996 Census-based projections. Table 10.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated (1%).

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the preliminary 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 Census.

**10.4 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—Queensland(a)**

	<i>All Indigenous births</i>	<i>Births to Indigenous mothers</i>	<i>All births</i>
<i>Total births (no.)</i>	3 337	2 427	47 678
Nuptial births (%)	21.3	16.5	64.6
Exnuptial births (%)	78.7	83.5	35.4
Paternity-acknowledged (%)	65.1	64.8	30.8
Paternity-not-acknowledged (%)	13.6	18.7	4.6
Both parents Indigenous (%)	32.4	..	..
Mother only(b) (%)	40.3	..	..
Father only(c) (%)	27.3	..	..
Age of mother			
19 and under (no.)	604	466	2 905
20–24 (no.)	1 029	755	8 472
25–29 (no.)	925	661	14 729
30–34 (no.)	541	384	14 234
35–39 (no.)	204	141	6 238
40–44 (no.)	34	20	1 055
45 and over (no.)	—	—	45
Not stated (no.)	—	—	—
Age-specific fertility rates(d)			
15–19	..	74.2	22.5
20–24	..	139.4	68.9
25–29	..	118.5	111.3
30–34	..	74.0	103.8
35–39	..	31.6	44.4
40–44	..	5.7	7.6
45–49	..	—	0.4
<i>Total fertility rate(d)</i>	..	2.217	1.795
<i>Total confinements (no.)</i>	3 291	2 391	46 940
Median age of mother (years)	25.2	24.9	29.3
Median age of father (years)	27.9	27.7	31.5

(a) 2001 coverage of Indigenous births in Queensland has been estimated at 123% on 1991 Census-based projections and 97% on 1996 Census-based projections. Table 10.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated (1%).

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the preliminary 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 Census.

## 10.5 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—South Australia(a)

	All Indigenous births	Births to Indigenous mothers	All births
<i>Total births (no.)</i>	612	430	17 281
Nuptial births (%)	15.8	13.3	66.4
Exnuptial births (%)	84.2	86.7	33.6
Paternity-acknowledged (%)	74.5	73.0	30.4
Paternity-not-acknowledged (%)	9.6	13.7	3.2
Both parents Indigenous (%)	30.9	..	..
Mother only(b) (%)	39.4	..	..
Father only(c) (%)	29.7	..	..
Age of mother			
19 and under (no.)	96	71	730
20–24 (no.)	189	124	2 569
25–29 (no.)	165	120	4 968
30–34 (no.)	113	75	5 758
35–39 (no.)	38	33	2 648
40–44 (no.)	8	5	570
45 and over (no.)	—	—	26
Not stated (no.)	3	—	12
Age-specific fertility rates(d)			
15–19	..	54.2	14.4
20–24	..	121.8	55.4
25–29	..	112.4	100.9
30–34	..	73.5	106.6
35–39	..	36.4	46.4
40–44	..	6.4	9.8
45–49	..	—	0.5
<i>Total fertility rate(d)</i>	..	2.023	1.670
<i>Total confinements (no.)</i>	608	427	17 026
Median age of mother (years)	25.6	25.9	30.3
Median age of father (years)	28.3	28.6	32.5

(a) 2001 coverage of Indigenous births in South Australia has been estimated at 102% on 1991 Census-based projections and 93% on 1996 Census-based projections. Table 10.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated (1%).

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the preliminary 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 Census.



**10.6 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—Western Australia(a)**

	<i>All Indigenous births</i>	<i>Births to Indigenous mothers</i>	<i>All births</i>
<i>Total births (no.)</i>	1 597	1 267	24 002
Nuptial births (%)	13.5	10.1	65.4
Exnuptial births (%)	86.5	89.9	34.6
Paternity-acknowledged (%)	73.3	73.2	30.9
Paternity-not-acknowledged (%)	13.2	16.7	3.7
Both parents Indigenous (%)	49.0	..	..
Mother only(b) (%)	30.3	..	..
Father only(c) (%)	20.7	..	..
Age of mother			
19 and under (no.)	342	280	1 325
20–24 (no.)	498	406	3 864
25–29 (no.)	394	315	7 191
30–34 (no.)	258	186	7 569
35–39 (no.)	88	70	3 403
40–44 (no.)	16	9	622
45 and over (no.)	—	—	23
Not stated (no.)	—	—	5
Age-specific fertility rates(d)			
15–19	..	85.3	19.4
20–24	..	147.4	60.5
25–29	..	114.9	105.6
30–34	..	68.7	104.2
35–39	..	30.2	45.6
40–44	..	4.9	8.4
45–49	..	—	0.3
<i>Total fertility rate(d)</i>	..	2.257	1.720
<i>Total confinements (no.)</i>	1 581	1 255	23 597
Median age of mother (years)	24.6	24.3	29.8
Median age of father (years)	27.5	27.3	32.1

(a) 2001 coverage of Indigenous births in Western Australia has been estimated at 90% on 1991 Census-based projections and 98% on 1996 Census-based projections. Table 10.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated (1%).

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the preliminary 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 Census.

## 10.7 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—Tasmania(a)

	All Indigenous births	Births to Indigenous mothers	All births
<i>Total births (no.)</i>	468	266	6 430
Nuptial births (%)	29.7	30.5	57.2
Exnuptial births (%)	70.3	69.5	42.8
Paternity-acknowledged (%)	67.1	63.9	39.6
Paternity-not-acknowledged (%)	3.2	5.6	3.3
Both parents Indigenous (%)	10.7	..	..
Mother only(b) (%)	46.2	..	..
Father only(c) (%)	43.2	..	..
Age of mother			
19 and under (no.)	91	52	543
20–24 (no.)	151	85	1 212
25–29 (no.)	119	67	1 901
30–34 (no.)	75	41	1 838
35–39 (no.)	26	15	777
40–44 (no.)	5	5	148
45 and over (no.)	—	—	—
Not stated (no.)	—	—	10
Age-specific fertility rates(d)			
15–19	..	51.4	32.7
20–24	..	121.2	86.6
25–29	..	110.8	129.4
30–34	..	64.6	112.3
35–39	..	25.1	44.2
40–44	..	8.8	8.0
45–49	..	—	0.1
<i>Total fertility rate(d)</i>	..	1.909	2.066
<i>Total confinements (no.)</i>	459	263	6 324
Median age of mother (years)	24.8	24.7	29.1
Median age of father (years)	28.4	28.7	31.4

(a) 2001 coverage of Indigenous births in the Tasmania has been estimated at 134% on 1991 Census-based projections and 99% on 1996 Census-based projections. Table 10.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated (1%).

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the preliminary 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 Census.

**10.8 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—Northern Territory(a)**

	<i>All Indigenous births</i>	<i>Births to Indigenous mothers</i>	<i>All births</i>
<i>Total births (no.)</i>	1 688	1 593	3 822
Nuptial births (%)	5.0	3.9	36.8
Exnuptial births (%)	95.0	96.1	63.2
Paternity-acknowledged (%)	49.0	47.4	40.0
Paternity-not-acknowledged (%)	46.0	48.7	23.2
Both parents Indigenous (%)	40.2	..	..
Mother only(b) (%)	54.1	..	..
Father only(c) (%)	5.6	..	..
Age of mother			
19 and under (no.)	448	440	509
20–24 (no.)	464	433	776
25–29 (no.)	428	397	1 084
30–34 (no.)	244	231	952
35–39 (no.)	86	76	405
40–44 (no.)	18	16	91
45 and over (no.)	—	—	5
Not stated (no.)	—	—	—
Age-specific fertility rates(d)			
15–19	..	146.1	70.0
20–24	..	159.1	99.9
25–29	..	146.9	117.6
30–34	..	96.5	103.2
35–39	..	36.6	48.6
40–44	..	9.8	12.1
45–49	..	—	0.8
<i>Total fertility rate(d)</i>	..	2.975	2.260
<i>Total confinements (no.)</i>	1 674	1 579	3 773
Median age of mother (years)	24.2	24.1	28.0
Median age of father (years)	27.4	27.1	31.2

(a) 2001 coverage of Indigenous births in the Northern Territory has been estimated at 112% on 1991 Census-based projections and 117% on 1996 Census-based projections. Table 10.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated.

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the preliminary 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 Census.

## 10.9 INDIGENOUS BIRTHS, Coverage

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(a)
BIRTHS REGISTERED AS INDIGENOUS									
1991	50	508	9	593	33	190	1 257	58	2 698
1992	42	503	4	561	1 215	218	1 354	14	3 911
1993	1 278	493	31	519	1 535	264	1 359	43	5 523
1994	2 011	520	25	531	1 578	247	1 338	59	6 310
1995	2 345	542	29	554	1 492	267	1 354	52	6 640
1996	2 444	474	2 534	557	1 538	244	1 343	66	9 204
1997	2 813	457	3 038	591	1 474	310	1 259	53	9 999
1998	3 014	590	3 085	661	1 468	300	1 284	42	10 445
1999	3 052	521	2 974	640	1 558	339	1 419	75	10 580
2000	2 991	452	3 172	632	1 721	336	1 530	57	10 895
2001	3 112	522	3 337	612	1 597	468	1 688	67	11 405

PROJECTED INDIGENOUS BIRTHS  
(1991 Census-based experimental projections)(b)

1996	2 473	622	2 520	551	1 629	310	1 401	59	9 565
1997	2 499	631	2 553	559	1 653	319	1 416	61	9 691
1998	2 525	639	2 594	569	1 680	326	1 435	62	9 830
1999	2 551	647	2 637	580	1 710	334	1 459	64	9 989
2000	2 576	655	2 680	591	1 743	342	1 485	66	10 144
2001	2 602	665	2 719	602	1 775	350	1 511	68	10 298

PROJECTED INDIGENOUS BIRTHS  
(1996 Census-based experimental estimates and projections)

1996(c)	3 392	669	3 224	626	1 564	432	1 411	90	11 409
1997(d)	3 428	679	3 266	635	1 587	445	1 426	93	11 559
1998(d)	3 448	680	3 312	639	1 597	450	1 436	96	11 162
1999(d)	3 471	680	3 357	644	1 609	458	1 442	98	11 763
2000(d)	3 498	679	3 401	650	1 618	466	1 444	100	11 860
2001(d)	3 527	679	3 447	658	1 634	475	1 446	103	11 972

ESTIMATED COVERAGE OF INDIGENOUS BIRTHS  
(1991 Census-based) (%)

1996	99	76	101	101	94	79	96	112	96
1997	113	72	119	106	89	97	89	87	103
1998	119	92	119	116	87	92	89	68	106
1999	120	81	113	110	91	101	97	117	106
2000	116	69	118	107	99	98	103	86	107
2001	120	78	123	102	90	134	112	99	111

ESTIMATED COVERAGE OF INDIGENOUS BIRTHS  
(1996 Census-based) (%)

1996	72	71	79	89	98	56	95	73	81
1997	82	67	93	93	93	70	88	57	87
1998	87	87	93	103	92	67	89	44	94
1999	88	77	89	99	97	74	98	77	90
2000	86	67	93	97	106	72	106	57	92
2001	88	77	97	93	98	99	117	65	95

Note: For further information see the Explanatory Notes on page 80.

(a) Includes 'Other Territories' from 1993.

(b) Source: *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 1991–2001* (cat. no. 3231.0). Medium series.

(c) Derived using the ratio for 1997 from the 1991 Census-based projected population to the 1996 Census-based projected population. *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population* (cat. no. 3231.0), using low series, 1996–2006 edition and the medium series of the 1991–2001 edition.

(d) Source: *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 1996–2006* (cat. no. 3231.0). Low series.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES .....

### INTRODUCTION

**1** Registration of births is the responsibility of state and territory Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages and is based on the data provided on an information form completed by the parents of the child. This form is the basis of the data provided to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), by Registrars, for compilation into the aggregate statistics in this publication. Most data items are collected in all states and territories and therefore statistics at the national level are available for most characteristics. Some states, however, collect additional information, and some of this is produced in this publication.

**2** In the main, statistics in this publication refer to births registered by the state and territory Registrars during the calendar year shown. There is usually an interval between the occurrence and registration of a birth and, as a result of delay in registration, some births occurring in one year are not registered until the following year or even later. This delay can be caused by either a delay by the parents in registering the birth, or a delay by the Registrar in registering the birth.

#### YEAR OF OCCURRENCE OF BIRTHS REGISTERED IN 2001 .....

State or territory of usual residence .....	YEAR IN WHICH BIRTH OCCURRED.....						
	1995 and earlier	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
.....	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
New South Wales	1.1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.8	11.6	85.0
Victoria	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.7	9.7	88.5
Queensland	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.9	12.3	85.1
South Australia	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.5	8.0	90.1
Western Australia	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.9	8.8	88.8
Tasmania	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.7	12.9	84.1
Northern Territory	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.1	9.0	90.6
Australian Capital Territory	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	13.3	86.5
<b>Australia</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>86.6</b>

**3** For births data, cell values less than three have been randomised to protect confidentiality.

### STATES AND TERRITORIES

**4** In the main, statistics for states and territories have been compiled and presented in respect of the state or territory of usual residence of the mother. However, in the following table, data have been presented on a state or territory of registration basis. Births which took place outside Australia are excluded from the statistics.

## BIRTHS, State or territory of usual residence of mother and state or territory of registration

## STATE OR TERRITORY OF REGISTRATION.....

State or territory of usual residence	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
New South Wales	82 566	883	417	30	22	5	3	652	84 578
Victoria	120	58 350	41	78	20	11	—	4	58 626
Queensland	574	44	46 995	25	20	9	6	5	47 678
South Australia	26	32	10	17 173	8	3	28	3	17 281
Western Australia	37	24	22	11	23 869	8	31	—	24 002
Tasmania	13	18	7	4	—	6 385	—	—	6 430
Northern Territory	19	11	31	20	14	3	3 724	—	3 822
Australian Capital Territory	53	6	3	—	—	—	—	3 872	3 938
Other Territories	10	—	—	—	29	—	—	—	39
<b>Australia</b>	<b>83 418</b>	<b>59 368</b>	<b>47 526</b>	<b>17 342</b>	<b>23 986</b>	<b>6 425</b>	<b>3 794</b>	<b>4 535</b>	<b>246 394</b>

**5** In 2001 there were 511 births to women who usually lived overseas. These have been included in this publication and classified according to the state or territory in which the birth was registered.

## BIRTHS, Babies born to non-resident mothers in Australia

State or territory of registration	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
New South Wales	34	50	54	231	312	331
Victoria	22	23	13	8	17	19
Queensland	59	114	89	111	108	108
South Australia	10	19	11	15	8	8
Western Australia	9	12	8	16	21	24
Tasmania	12	—	4	13	7	6
Northern Territory	4	—	—	9	6	8
Australian Capital Territory	7	4	4	5	4	7
<b>Australia</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>511</b>

**6** As a result of an amendment made in 1992 to section 17(a) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901–1973* (Cwlth) the Indian Ocean territories of Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands have been included as part of geographic Australia, hence another category of the state and territory classification has been created. This category is known as 'Other Territories' and includes Christmas Island, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Jervis Bay Territory.

**7** Prior to 1993 usual residence data for Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands were included with Off-shore Areas and Migratory in Western Australia while usual residence data for Jervis Bay Territory were included with the Australian Capital Territory. In 2001 there were 39 births to mothers usually resident in Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island or the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

## REMOTENESS AREA

**8** Remoteness Areas (RA) are based on the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) developed by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care (DHAC) and the National Key Centre For Social Applications of GIS (GISCA). For further information see *Australian Standard Geographical Classification, 2002, p. 37*, (cat. no. 1216.0). For more information on how ARIA is defined see the Information Papers *ABS Views on Remoteness, 2001*, (cat. no. 1244.0) and *Outcomes of ABS Views on Remoteness consultation, Australia*, (cat. no. 1244.0.00.001).

Within a state/territory, each RA represents an aggregation of non-contiguous geographical areas which share common characteristics of remoteness. While statistical data classed to this structure may be available by state/territory, characteristics of remoteness are determined in the context of Australia as a whole. Therefore, not all RAs are represented in each state/territory. The categories are:

- Major Cities of Australia: CDs with an average Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) index value of 0 to 0.2
- Inner Regional Australia: CDs with an average ARIA index value greater than 0.2 and less than or equal to 2.4
- Outer Regional Australia: CDs with an average ARIA index value greater than 2.4 and less than or equal to 5.92
- Remote Australia: CDs with an average ARIA index value greater than 5.92 and less than or equal to 10.53
- Very Remote Australia: CDs with an average ARIA index value greater than 10.53
- Migratory: composed of off-shore, shipping and migratory CDs.

## INDIGENOUS BIRTHS

**9** This publication includes a section on the number of Indigenous births for New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, and the Northern Territory. The data are regarded as being of sufficient quality to publish.

**10** The populations used to calculate Indigenous fertility rates prior to 2001 are based on the *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 2001* (cat. no. 3231.0) and the *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1996 to 30 June 2006* (cat. no. 3231.0). These projections are, in turn, based on the 1991 and 1996 Censuses of Population and Housing. The population used to calculate Indigenous fertility rates for 2001 are the preliminary 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 Census.

## COVERAGE OF INDIGENOUS BIRTH REGISTRATIONS

**11** There are several data collection forms on which people are asked to state whether they are of Indigenous origin. Due to a number of factors the results are not always consistent. The likelihood that a person will identify, or be identified, as Indigenous on a specific form is known as their propensity to identify as Indigenous. Propensity to identify as Indigenous can be thought of as the proportion of the total, unknown, number of Indigenous people who identify as such on a specific form.

COVERAGE OF INDIGENOUS BIRTH REGISTRATIONS *continued*

Propensity to identify is determined by a range of factors, including the perception of how the information will be used, education programs about identifying as Indigenous, and emotional reaction to identifying as Indigenous.

There are four estimates of the number of Indigenous births each year. Each is based on a different collection, with a different propensity to identify as Indigenous:

- 1991 Census-based population projections: The number of Indigenous children in the 1991 Census was used to estimate the fertility rate for 1991. Assuming this fertility rate to continue, and making other assumptions about mortality and interstate migration, the number of births in subsequent years was projected
- 1996 Census-based population projections: There are two series of projections; a low series and a high series. The low series uses a very similar method to the 1991 Census-based population projections, in that the number of births each year is estimated, using the propensity to identify found in the 1996 Census. The high series uses an alternative assumption of an increasing propensity to identify based on the change between 1991 and 1996
- Birth Registrations: This publication is based on the registration of births with the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages in each state and territory
- Perinatal Data Collection: This data is primarily about babies born in hospitals and their mothers.

## RELATED PRODUCTS

**12** Other ABS products which may be of interest to users include:

*AusStats* — electronic data (see Explanatory Note 13)

*Australian Demographic Statistics*, cat. no. 3101.0 — issued quarterly

*Australian Demographic Trends*, cat. no. 3102.0 — issued irregularly

*Causes of Death, Australia*, cat. no. 3303.0 — issued annually

*Deaths, Australia*, cat. no. 3302.0 — issued annually

*Demography* — State and territory specific publications issued annually,  
cat. nos 3311.1–8

*Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
Population*, cat. no. 3231.0 — issued irregularly

*Demographic Estimates and Projections: Concepts, Sources and Methods,  
Statistical Concepts Library*, ABS web site: <URL:<http://www.abs.gov.au>>

**13** AusStats is a web based information service which provides ABS' full standard product range on-line. It also includes companion data in multidimensional datasets in SuperTABLE format, and time series spreadsheets. For a list of the related data available on AusStats see the List of Tables on page 5.

**14** Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0).

**15** As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, additional information is available from the ABS web site at <URL:<http://www.abs.gov.au>> and accessing Themes/Demography.



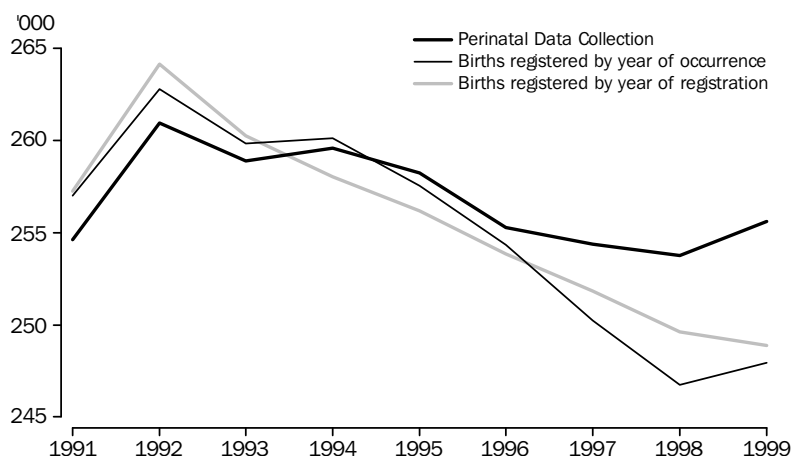
**BIRTH REGISTRATIONS COMPARED TO THE PERINATAL DATA COLLECTION**

Birth registration data as published in this publication are not the only births data available in Australia. The Perinatal Statistics Unit of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) also collect birth data from midwives who attend births. This data is published annually in *Australia's Mothers and Babies*.

As information from these two types of collection are from different sources, the statistics obtained vary. For example, the Perinatal Data Collection reported the occurrence of 255,600 live births in Australia in 1999, the latest available, compared to 248,900 births registered in the same year.

The following graph shows the total number of live births in Australia by type of collection and recording basis from 1991 to 1999. Births from the Perinatal Data Collection are shown on a year of occurrence basis. Registered births are shown on a year of registration basis and on a year of occurrence basis, which includes births that occurred in a particular year but may have been registered up to and including the year 2001. Prior to 1994, the Perinatal Data Collection showed fewer births reported than births registered but since 1994, this position has reversed and the gap between births reported in Perinatal Data Collection and births registered continues to widen, indicating an increasing trend of parents delaying or failing to register the birth of their child. While difficult to explain, the change in pattern may be attributed to the quality improvements made over the years and improved coverage to the basis of the Perinatal Data Collection combined with declining birth registrations.

**A1.1 LIVE BIRTHS, Type of collection**



BIRTH REGISTRATIONS COMPARED TO THE PERINATAL DATA COLLECTION *continued*

For birth registration data, the ratio of births occurring and being registered in the same year remained fairly constant, ranging from 88%–90% from 1991 to 1999. To avoid measuring any 'lag effect' the following analysis of the difference between the type of collections is made on live births between the Perinatal Data Collection and registrations on a year of registration basis.

## AGE OF MOTHER

The age of the mother is a factor which contributes to differences between the Perinatal Data Collection and registration data. In the less than 20 year age group, births occurred in the Perinatal Data Collection outnumbered births registered, by 7% in 1996 and this has increased to 10% in 1999. This higher proportion of births from the Perinatal Data Collection occurred in all ages up to 40 years and over. Registered births then start to exceed births reported in the Perinatal Data Collection, indicating that younger mothers are less likely to have registered their child's birth. In the 40 years and over age group, where births registered exceeded those reported in the Perinatal Data Collection, the percentage difference has narrowed from 4% in 1996 to 1% in 1999.

## STATE AND TERRITORY COMPARISONS

While the birth registration data provides information on state of registration or state of usual residence of mother, the Perinatal Data Collection only provide data (for analytical purposes) on the state or territory in which the birth took place (state of occurrence). Therefore, the following analysis compares state of usual residence from Birth Registrations to state of occurrence from the Perinatal Data Collection. As there are a small number of births that occur in a different state or territory to that of the mother's usual residence, there will be some minor differences between the two datasets. For example, some women from rural New South Wales, close to the Australian Capital Territory border, have their babies in Canberra. As a consequence, the Australian Capital Territory has been excluded from the following analysis. The 1999 data for Tasmania is unavailable from the Perinatal Data Collection and has therefore also been excluded from this analysis.

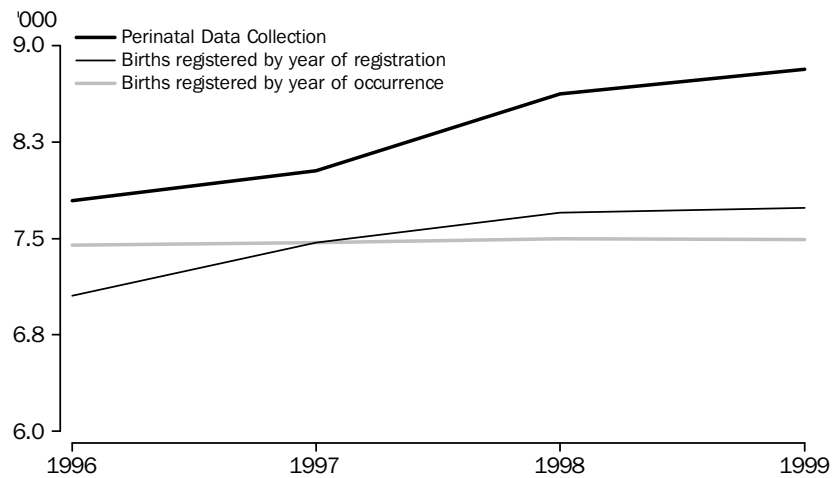
In 1999, all states and territories, except the Northern Territory, showed more births reported in the Perinatal Data Collection than births registered. The higher number of births registered in the Northern Territory may be due to the larger number of home and remote clinic births that are not captured in the Perinatal Data Collection.

In the four years since 1996, there has been a change in New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia where reported births in the Perinatal Data Collection now exceed those registered and the changes in these states may have contributed to the widening gap between the two collections.

## INDIGENOUS CONFINEMENTS

There are large differences between the Indigenous birth registration data and the Indigenous data from the Perinatal Data Collection. From the 1996 Census-based projections, the coverage of Indigenous births from the 1999 birth registrations was estimated at 90%. Despite the high coverage there are still clear differences between birth registrations and the Perinatal Data Collection. Please refer to comments in Explanatory Note 11 on page 79 regarding the coverage of Indigenous birth registrations.

Total births to Indigenous mothers reported in the Perinatal Data Collection exceeded registered births for the period 1996–1999. Similar to all births, there is an increasing gap between the number of births to Indigenous mothers reported in Perinatal Data Collection compared to births registered.

**A1.2** LIVE BIRTHS TO INDIGENOUS MOTHERS, Type of collection

## APPENDIX 2

## CHARACTERISTICS AVAILABLE .....

### BIRTHS/CONFINEMENTS

Registration year  
Registration month  
State/territory of registration  
Year of birth of child  
Month of birth of child  
Day of birth of child  
Sex of child  
Mother's age  
Father's age  
Aboriginality of child  
Aboriginality of mother  
Aboriginality of father  
State or territory of usual residence  
Statistical Division of usual residence  
Statistical Subdivision of usual residence  
Statistical Local Area of usual residence  
Country of birth of mother  
Country of birth of father  
Nuptiality  
Plurality  
Previous children of the current relationship  
Duration of marriage  
Year of marriage  
Month of marriage  
Country of marriage  
Father's occupation

### ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

Age  
Sex  
Country of birth  
Marital status  
State or territory of usual residence  
Statistical Division of usual residence  
Statistical Subdivision of usual residence  
Statistical Local Area of usual residence  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population

# APPENDIX 3

## ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION .....

### A3.1 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, at 30 June 2001p

STATE/TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE.....									
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA.	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(a)
Age group (years)	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Females									
0-4	214.6	151.6	121.2	45.3	62.3	15.3	8.5	10.4	629.2
5-9	221.9	159.4	128.1	48.5	65.7	16.4	8.5	10.9	659.4
10-14	221.5	159.9	127.2	48.6	68.0	16.8	7.8	11.1	661.2
15-19	219.8	161.8	128.9	50.6	68.4	16.6	7.3	12.1	665.5
20-24	213.1	161.2	122.9	46.4	63.9	14.0	7.8	13.2	642.4
25-29	241.6	178.3	132.4	49.3	68.1	14.7	9.2	13.2	706.9
30-34	250.6	192.8	137.1	54.1	72.7	16.4	9.2	13.0	745.9
35-39	254.7	189.3	140.5	57.1	74.6	17.6	8.3	13.0	755.3
40-44	252.0	185.5	139.4	58.4	74.5	18.5	7.5	12.9	748.8
45-49	229.7	170.2	127.8	54.6	69.9	17.1	6.7	12.4	688.6
50-54	216.0	161.1	121.6	53.0	63.4	16.3	5.6	11.8	648.9
55-59	170.4	123.9	94.3	41.2	46.3	12.9	3.5	8.0	500.7
60-64	142.2	103.6	74.7	34.1	38.2	11.0	2.2	5.7	411.8
65-69	122.1	89.5	60.4	29.7	31.3	9.3	1.3	4.3	347.9
70-74	118.8	86.7	57.1	30.1	28.4	8.7	0.9	3.8	334.5
75-79	104.3	76.2	49.1	27.7	23.8	7.8	0.6	3.3	293.0
80-84	72.7	51.9	34.4	19.3	16.3	5.6	0.4	2.2	202.7
85+	64.6	48.6	30.3	17.7	16.1	4.9	0.3	1.8	184.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 330.7</b>	<b>2 451.6</b>	<b>1 827.1</b>	<b>765.7</b>	<b>951.9</b>	<b>239.8</b>	<b>95.7</b>	<b>163.1</b>	<b>9 826.7</b>
Males									
0-4	226.5	159.3	128.1	47.2	65.5	16.1	9.0	10.7	662.3
5-9	233.8	167.8	135.6	51.1	69.4	17.3	9.2	11.3	695.5
10-14	232.3	166.7	134.5	51.9	71.9	17.7	8.4	11.5	695.1
15-19	231.8	167.5	135.1	53.2	72.2	17.4	7.8	12.8	697.9
20-24	220.1	164.5	124.1	49.0	67.1	14.2	8.5	13.3	660.9
25-29	239.5	174.2	129.9	50.8	69.5	14.1	9.6	13.0	700.7
30-34	246.4	185.3	132.9	55.2	73.4	15.6	9.5	12.7	731.0
35-39	254.8	183.8	134.6	57.1	74.2	16.8	9.0	12.4	742.9
40-44	249.9	180.5	135.4	57.8	73.8	18.0	8.1	12.0	735.7
45-49	228.2	165.8	126.3	53.6	69.1	17.0	7.2	11.5	678.9
50-54	219.9	157.4	123.8	52.3	66.0	16.4	6.6	11.5	654.0
55-59	174.7	123.9	98.3	40.8	49.3	13.1	4.5	8.1	512.7
60-64	141.8	101.4	77.5	33.2	39.0	11.0	3.0	5.6	412.6
65-69	116.8	83.8	60.8	28.1	30.3	8.9	1.7	4.1	334.6
70-74	107.4	77.4	53.5	27.1	26.6	8.1	1.2	3.4	304.7
75-79	80.8	58.1	40.1	20.9	19.3	6.1	0.6	2.6	228.6
80-84	45.7	32.2	23.0	12.2	10.4	3.3	0.2	1.3	128.4
85+	28.1	21.6	14.4	7.7	7.1	2.2	0.2	0.7	82.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 278.6</b>	<b>2 371.0</b>	<b>1 808.0</b>	<b>749.2</b>	<b>954.2</b>	<b>233.2</b>	<b>104.3</b>	<b>158.6</b>	<b>9 658.6</b>

(a) Includes Other Territories.

# APPENDIX 4

## EXPERIMENTAL ESTIMATES OF THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER POPULATION .....

### A4.1 EXPERIMENTAL ESTIMATES OF THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER POPULATION(a)

STATE/TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE.....

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA.	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
Females									
0-4	8 919	1 830	8 508	1 636	4 186	1 075	3 327	269	29 764
5-9	9 052	1 836	8 542	1 676	4 197	1 118	3 358	249	30 043
10-14	8 169	1 699	7 494	1 546	3 990	1 091	3 105	239	27 344
15-19	6 642	1 376	6 278	1 316	3 285	1 016	3 011	204	23 137
20-24	4 941	1 111	5 418	1 023	2 757	704	2 722	178	18 867
25-29	5 375	1 150	5 576	1 073	2 744	607	2 703	175	19 418
30-34	5 208	1 121	5 189	1 025	2 711	637	2 393	182	18 473
35-39	4 726	953	4 455	912	2 318	599	2 076	138	16 184
40-44	3 950	801	3 499	779	1 822	573	1 633	126	13 191
45-49	3 122	642	2 833	585	1 526	405	1 303	90	10 511
50-54	2 483	518	2 164	445	1 126	289	969	42	8 040
55-59	1 665	344	1 488	289	746	177	658	36	5 410
60-64	1 247	245	1 136	254	590	164	574	18	4 233
65-69	903	170	735	157	424	88	393	6	2 878
70-74	612	128	514	119	285	70	246	5	1 980
75-79	326	87	335	48	180	48	145	3	1 173
80-84	190	51	197	52	109	20	102	3	724
85+	198	47	145	38	133	12	89	1	663
<b>Total</b>	<b>67 728</b>	<b>14 109</b>	<b>64 506</b>	<b>12 973</b>	<b>33 129</b>	<b>8 693</b>	<b>28 807</b>	<b>1 964</b>	<b>232 033</b>
Males									
0-4	9 375	1 786	8 657	1 603	4 388	1 137	3 487	246	30 693
5-9	9 634	1 942	9 081	1 739	4 512	1 184	3 706	291	32 096
10-14	8 724	1 701	7 907	1 578	4 349	1 273	3 445	203	29 188
15-19	6 953	1 439	6 311	1 365	3 374	991	3 057	214	23 722
20-24	5 241	1 112	4 929	1 032	2 670	659	2 793	170	18 614
25-29	4 959	1 111	4 799	1 039	2 714	565	2 696	187	18 076
30-34	4 660	1 040	4 441	972	2 500	553	2 305	169	16 650
35-39	4 271	857	3 900	853	2 175	521	1 910	135	14 628
40-44	3 788	768	3 286	717	1 755	506	1 513	133	12 475
45-49	3 051	634	2 544	561	1 433	438	1 205	102	9 975
50-54	2 335	529	2 038	422	1 025	326	880	54	7 612
55-59	1 716	315	1 228	290	685	224	599	32	5 092
60-64	1 222	216	866	181	486	151	468	18	3 617
65-69	815	147	670	121	342	109	271	12	2 489
70-74	428	90	404	91	226	55	178	1	1 473
75-79	217	51	237	29	137	31	94	3	799
80-84	93	36	123	22	82	16	74	3	450
85+	109	45	108	32	87	10	62	4	458
<b>Total</b>	<b>67 591</b>	<b>13 819</b>	<b>61 529</b>	<b>12 647</b>	<b>32 940</b>	<b>8 749</b>	<b>28 743</b>	<b>1 977</b>	<b>228 107</b>

(a) At 30 June 2001p.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

## APPENDIX 5 SPECIAL ARTICLES LIST .....

### BIRTHS, AUSTRALIA (cat. no. 3301.0)

- Fertility rates and birth order, 1996 edition, p. 7
- Pregnancy in context, 1997 edition, p. 10
- Childlessness, 1998 edition, p. 42
- Larger families, 1998 edition, p. 51
- Food and nutrient consumption during pregnancy, 1999 edition, p. 16
- Teenage fertility, 1999 edition, p. 28
- Birth order specific fertility rates in Australia, 1986–1999, 1999 edition, p. 33
- Older fathers, 2000 edition, p. 23
- Fertility differentials, 2000 edition, p. 27
- Multiple births, 2000 edition, p. 35
- Birth order specific fertility rates, States and territories, 2000 edition, p. 39
- Fertility by country of birth, 2001 edition, p. 24
- Regional fertility differentials, 2001 edition, p. 32.
- Total issue, 2001 edition, p. 39

### AUSTRALIAN SOCIAL TRENDS (cat. no. 4102.0)

- Adoptions, 1998 edition, p. 33
- Age at first marriage, 1997 edition, p. 27
- Caring for children after parents separate, 1999 edition, p. 42
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- Children in families, 1995 edition, p. 29
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- Lone fathers with dependent children, 1994 edition, p. 40
- Looking after the children, 1999 edition, p. 39
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- People who live alone, 1996 edition, p. 33
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- Principal carers and their caring roles, 1996 edition, p. 44
- Remarriage trends of divorced people, 1999 edition, p. 45
- Rural families, 1998 edition, p. 42
- Trends in de facto partnering, 1995 edition, p. 38
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- Young adults living in the parental home, 2000 edition, p. 39
- Older mothers, 2001 edition, p. 55
- Child care arrangements, 2001 edition, p. 41
- Trends in childlessness, 2002 edition, p. 37

## GLOSSARY .....

- Age-specific fertility rate** Age-specific fertility rates are the number of live births (occurred or registered) during the calendar year, according to the age of the mother, per 1,000 of the female resident population of the same age at 30 June. For calculating these rates, births to mothers under 15 are included in the 15–19 age group, and births to mothers aged 50 and over are included in the 45–49 age group. Pro rata adjustment is made for births for which the age of the mother is not given.
- Average issue** The mean number of children ever born alive per woman. Average issue varies by age of woman and is influenced by extreme values of the number of children born. Any grouping of children ever born (eg 6 plus) should be given a 'mean' value (6.5 or any other value which must be specified) for the calculation of the average issue.
- Balance of state or territory** The aggregation of all Statistical Divisions (SD) within a state or territory other than its Capital City SD. Further details are included in *Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)* (cat. no. 1216.0).
- Birth** The delivery of a child, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, who, after being born, breathes or shows any evidence of life such as heartbeat.
- Birth interval** Birth interval refers to the interval between two live births. It is usually estimated by subtracting a later birth date from the immediately preceding birth date. The interval between marriage and the first birth is known as the first birth interval, that between the first birth and the second as the second birth interval, that between the second birth and third birth as the third birth interval and so on. A birth interval can be open or closed. An open birth interval is that period following the birth of the last child before the interval is closed by the birth of another child.
- Birth order** Birth order refers to the numerical ordering of the total number of children born alive to a woman, including the present child. The first birth order refers to the first birth, the second birth order to the second birth, the third birth order to the third birth and so on.
- Capital city** Capital city refers to the '05' Statistical Division of states and territories as defined in *Statistical Geography: Volume 1—Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)* (cat. no. 1216.0).
- Completed fertility** The completed fertility rate represents the average number of births a cohort of women have borne. It is obtained by summing the age-specific birth rates experienced by that cohort of women over their reproductive lives.
- Confinements** A pregnancy which results in at least one live birth.
- Country of birth** The classification of countries is the Standard Australian Classification for Countries (SACC). For more detailed information refer to *Standard Australian Classification for Countries (SACC)* (cat. no. 1269.0).



<b>Crude birth rate</b>	The crude birth rate is the number of live births registered during the calendar year per 1,000 estimated resident population at 30 June of that year. For years prior to 1992, the crude birth rate was based on the mean estimated resident population for the calendar year.
<b>Estimated resident population</b>	<p>Estimated resident population (ERP) are estimates of the Australian population obtained by adding to the estimated population at the beginning of each period the components of natural increase (on a usual residence basis) and net overseas migration. For the states and territories, account is also taken of estimated interstate movements involving a change of usual residence.</p> <p>Estimates of the resident population are based on adjusted (for underenumeration) census counts by place of usual residence, to which are added the number of Australian residents estimated to have been temporarily overseas at the time of the Census. Overseas visitors in Australia are excluded from this calculation.</p> <p>After each census, estimates for the preceding intercensal period are revised by incorporating an additional adjustment (intercensal discrepancy) to ensure that the total intercensal increase agrees with the difference between the ERPs at the two respective census dates.</p> <p>The concept of ERP links people to a place of usual residence within Australia. Usual residence is that place where each person has lived or intends to live for six months or more from the reference date for data collection.</p>
<b>Indigenous</b>	Persons who identify as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.
<b>Indigenous birth</b>	The birth of a live-born child where either the mother or the father was identified as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin on the birth registration form. Indigenous births in Indigenous population estimates/projections are those which result by applying assumed age-specific fertility rates to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mothers in reproductive ages.
<b>Intercensal discrepancy</b>	Intercensal discrepancy is the difference between two estimates of a census year population, the first based on the latest census and the second arrived at by updating the previous census date estimate with intercensal components of population change which take account of information available from the latest census. It is caused by errors in the start and/or finish population estimates and/or in estimates of births, deaths or migration in the intervening period which cannot be attributed to a particular source.
<b>Marital status</b>	Two separate concepts are measured by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. These are registered marital status and social marital status. They have different personal characteristics and are independent variables with separate classifications. Marital status relates to registered marital status which refers to formally registered marriages or divorces for which the partners hold a certificate. Four categories of marital status are identified: never married, married, widowed and divorced.
<b>Median age at childbearing</b>	The term refers to the age when approximately one-half of the women in a population have their children, either for a birth of particular birth order or for all births. It measures the age at childbearing within the female population, as distinct from the median age of mother at confinement which measures the median age of the women who gave birth in a particular year.

<b>Median value</b>	For any distribution the median value (age, duration, interval) is that value which divides the relevant population into two equal parts, half falling below the value, and half exceeding it. Where the value for a particular record has not been stated, that record is excluded from the calculation.
<b>Multiple birth</b>	A multiple birth is a confinement which results in two or more issue, at least one of which is live-born.
<b>Net reproduction rate</b>	The net reproduction rate represents the average number of daughters that would be born to a group of women if they are subject to the fertility and mortality rates of a given year during their future life. It indicates the extent to which the population would reproduce itself. The net reproduction rate is obtained by multiplying the age-specific birth rates (for female births only) by the proportion of survivors at corresponding ages in a life table and adding the products.
<b>Nuptial first confinement</b>	A nuptial first confinement is the first confinement in the current marriage and therefore does not necessarily represent the woman's first ever confinement resulting in a live birth.
<b>Nuptiality</b>	Nuptiality relates to the marital status of persons and the events such as marriages, divorces and widowhood. Confinements and births are identified as being nuptial where the father registered was married to the mother at the time of birth, or where the husband died during pregnancy. Confinements and children of Indigenous mothers considered to be tribally married are classified as nuptial. Other confinements, and the children resulting from them, are classified as exnuptial whether or not both parents were living together at the time of birth.
<b>Paternity-acknowledged birth</b>	A paternity-acknowledged birth refers to an exnuptial birth where paternity was acknowledged.
<b>Perinatal death</b>	A perinatal death is a fetal or a neonatal death.
<b>Previous births</b>	<p>Previous births refer to children born alive (who may or may not be living) to a mother prior to the registration of the current birth in the processing period. In some states, legitimised and legally adopted children may also be included.</p> <p>Due to variation in data collection and processing methods across states and territories, different definitions of the concept of previous births have been applied.</p> <p>All previous births of the mother includes all births prior to the current confinement, regardless of nuptiality and paternity.</p> <p>Previous births of the current relationship where paternity was acknowledged includes all births prior to the current confinement where the current confinement relates to a nuptial birth, or an exnuptial birth where paternity was acknowledged.</p>
<b>Registered marital status</b>	Registered marital status refers to formally registered marriages for which the partners hold a marriage certificate. In this publication the distinction is between married parents (nuptial births) and unmarried parents (exnuptial births).
<b>Replacement fertility</b>	Replacement level fertility is the number of babies a woman would need to have over her reproductive life span to replace herself and her partner. Given the current mortality of women up to age 49, replacement fertility is estimated at 2.1 babies per woman.

<b>Sex ratio</b>	The sex ratio relates to the number of males per 100 females. The sex ratio is defined for total population, at birth, at death and among age groups by appropriately selecting the numerator and denominator of the ratio.
<b>Social marital status</b>	Social marital status is the consensual union status of a person with reference to another person in the household. In this publication data are only available from midwives' collection. The categories are married/de facto; single; and separated/divorced/widowed.
<b>State or territory of registration</b>	State or territory of registration refers to the state or territory in which the birth was registered.
<b>State or territory and Statistical Local Area (SLA) of usual residence</b>	<p>State or territory of Statistical Local Area (SLA) of usual residence refers to the state or territory and SLA of usual residence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ the population (estimated resident population)</li> <li>■ the mother (birth collection); or</li> <li>■ the deceased (death collection).</li> </ul> <p>In the case of overseas movements, state or territory of usual residence refers to the state or territory regarded by the traveller as the one in which he/she lives or has lived. State or territory of intended residence is derived from the intended address given by settlers, and by Australian residents returning after a journey abroad. Particularly in the case of the former, this information does not necessarily relate to the state or territory in which the traveller will eventually establish a permanent residence.</p>
<b>Total fertility rate</b>	The sum of age-specific fertility rates (live births at each age of mother per female population of that age). It represents the number of children a woman would bear during her lifetime if she experienced current age-specific fertility rates at each age of her reproductive life.
<b>Year of occurrence</b>	Data presented on year of occurrence basis relate to the date the event occurred.
<b>Year of registration</b>	Data presented on year of registration basis relate to the date the event was registered.

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